

Hafa Adai!

Fight with family this Thanksgiving—science has your back. **PAGE 10**
Domenech to visit the Marianas. **PAGE 13**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 234

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2019

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Govt, classes closed today



Suspect nabbed after foot chase

A man wanted on charges of robbery, kidnapping, impersonating an officer, and disturbing the peace was apprehended yesterday by police in Finasisu after a short foot chase.

Police arrested Daniel Muña Quitugua at about 10:39am Tuesday in Finasisu after receiving a tip that he was driving a white

See SUSPECT on Page 4

Officers of the Department of Public Safety arrest Daniel Muna Quitugua yesterday morning after a brief chase on foot in Finasisu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan, Tinian, and Rota have been placed on Tropical Storm Condition II yesterday as Tropical Storm Kummuri continues to track south of Guam. This means tropical storm conditions, including winds of 39 miles per hour or more, are expected from tonight through Wednesday afternoon.

WHAT THEY MEAN

The U.S. Navy in Japan uses the Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness to determine conditions of destructive weather from a tropical cyclone, or typhoon.

The following are descriptions of each TCCOR:

TCCOR 4
(Typhoon Condition IV)
Lowest stage. Indicates that a possible threat of destructive winds will occur in 72 hours.

TCCOR 3
(Typhoon Condition III)
Destructive winds are possible within 48 hours.

TCCOR 2
(Typhoon Condition II)
Destructive winds are anticipated in 24 hours.

TCCOR 1
(Typhoon Condition I)
Destructive winds are anticipated within 12 hours.

Definitions provided by the National Weather Service:

Tropical Storm Watch

A tropical storm watch is issued when a tropical cyclone, or typhoon, containing winds of 39 to 73 mph or higher poses a possible threat, generally within 48 hours. These winds may be accompanied by storm surge, coastal flooding, and/or river flooding. The watch does not mean that tropical storm conditions will occur, it only means that these conditions are possible.

Tropical Storm Warning

A tropical storm warning is issued when sustained winds of 39 mph to 73 mph or higher associated with a tropical cyclone, or typhoon, are expected in 36 hours or less. These winds may be accompanied by storm surge, coastal flooding, and/or river flooding.

Source: National Weather Service



Torres

this morning. Offices will re-open after the all-clear signal has been given.

The Public School System suspended classes and closed its offices

as of 12:30pm. The Northern Marianas College also cancelled its evening classes after 4pm.

PSS shelters and that of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs were activated at 4pm, with the Commonwealth Office of Transit

See GOVT on Page 4

IPI hiring Turkish H2B workers

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is hiring Turkish H2B workers for the ongoing construction of its Imperial Pacific Resort in western Garapan. IPI also reported that six of a planned 15

» Six of 15 VIP villas now complete

VIP villas are now complete.

Eric Poon, IPI vice president for construction, disclosed during yesterday's Commonwealth Casino Commission board meeting that visa applications for the workers are now being processed in Turkey.

See IPI on Page 4

Police recommend autopsy on dead body

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigations Bureau has recommended an autopsy on the dead body that was found in a cove of Bird Island.

A DPS statement yesterday also said that, due to the current

state of the body, it could not be identified immediately. The body was reportedly in an advanced state of decomposition.

DPS said they received a 911 call from hikers about a dead individual at an outer cove of Bird Island. Police and medics from the Department

See POLICE on Page 4

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Triple J Saipan Inc. remains committed to the revival of the Chalan Kanoa village.

PAGE 14



NATION

The witnesses have spoken. Now impeachment investigators will woo public opinion.

PAGE 15



LIFE & STYLE

Thieves broke into Dresden's Green Vault, making off with "priceless" sets of jewelry.

PAGE 20



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440

FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Guam's Christmas trees dosed with chemical to kill pests

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Christmas trees arriving by ship to the U.S. territory of Guam are getting decked out with a special decoration: Doses of methyl bromide gas to prevent them from becoming nesting grounds

for invasive species.

Guam's Customs and Quarantine's BioSecurity Task Force is filling containers of imported Christmas trees with odorless and colorless methyl bromide gas to kill potentially

invasive species, *The Pacific Daily News* reports.

Customs agents have treated six containers of more than 2,500 imported trees, wreaths and garlands and expect to treat another seven containers in

coming weeks, officials said.

The Guam Invasive Species Council approved the Department of Agriculture's fumigation policy in 2016 to prevent unwanted pests from impacting Guam's agriculture, natu-

ral resources or the homes of Christmas celebrants.

Each container will be released after a customs inspection to ensure the treatment works, officials said.

The Environmental Pro-

tection Agency characterizes methyl bromide as a toxic fumigant to control a wide variety of agriculture and shipping pests including fungi, weeds, insects, roundworms, and rodents.

TSL Foundation supports women's group

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation has rallied behind the CNMI Women's Association and its various programs that offer services and assistance to female members of the community.

The foundation, which is the charitable arm of Tan Holdings, recently presented CWA with a donation for the group's inaugural Fun-Raise-Her Dinner, which was held last Friday at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan to raise funds that the association will use to realize its goals and mission.

"CWA was founded to help women become successful leaders, wherever they are, whether they are at home or at work and doing everything they can to have a positive impact on the community and their families," said CWA

program administrator Felicidad Ogomoro.

Ogomoro, along with some members of the CWA board, received the \$1,500 donation from TSL Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino earlier this month at the JP Centre in Garapan.

"We commend CWA for empowering women in our community by providing them with opportunities to work, finish school, and undergo training for both personal and professional developments," Tolentino said.

Ogomoro said that since they open their doors in 2011, they have helped several women get their GED (High School Equivalency Certificate) and they also assist them in finding jobs. She added that corporate sponsors like Tan Holdings play a significant



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tan Siu Lin Foundation executive director Merlie Tolentino, second left, and TSLF administrative officer Mel Naputi, right, present the ceremonial check donation to CNMI Women's Association program administrator Felicidad Ogomoro, left, and the CWA board members early this month at the JP Centre in Garapan.

role in ensuring the continuity of CWA programs in the face of these challenging times.

"On behalf of CWA board,

I would like to extend our gratitude to Tan Holdings and the TSL Foundation for helping us realize our mission.

Through their help and other corporate sponsors, we are able to remain committed to helping women become suc-

cessful to fully participate in different phases of development in our community," Ogomoro said. **(PR)**

The Best Gaming Club in Saipan

WELCOME TO Fabulous SAIPAN VEGAS GOLF RESORT & SLOT CLUB

NOVEMBER PLAYER PROMOTIONS

BEER Pong Draw

Win \$250 on our Daily Hourly Draw

Saturday Mega Cash Draws

from 9:00pm-1:00am

on November 16, 23, & 30

with over \$17,500

of Cash and Vouchers to be won!

Come play today and be the next Big Winner!

Customers First

TRIPLE J

Join our Team!

Restaurant Manager

This job requires the Manager to direct the work of other restaurant employees in order to create and maintain a profitable restaurant environment that provides best-in-class service, hospitality, and food and beverage to every guest. The Manager must also manage costs, initiate local store marketing and recruiting efforts, and ensure that proper policies are followed, including employment and incident documentation.

First Line Supervisor/Dining

Directly supervise and coordinate activities of workers engaged in preparing and serving food. Train workers in food preparation and in service, sanitation, and safety procedures. Compile and balance cash receipts at the end of the day or shift. Perform dining area cleaning activities. Resolve customer complaints regarding food service. Control inventories of food, equipment small ware, and liquor report shortages to designated personnel.

Triple J offers competitive benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Surf Club RESTAURANT

BOBBA GUMP

Great Harvest BAKERY & CAFE

TONY ROMA'S RIBS SEAFOOD STEAKS

Capriccioso!

Interested applicants may drop off resume to **TRIPLE J CORPORATE OFFICE**
Brigida St. Chalan Kanoa • Email: hrtjsaipan@triplejsaipan.com



The latest batch of 15 CNMI students who went to Japan under the Office of the Mayor's Student Cultural Exchange Program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Back from Japan

The latest batch of 15 CNMI students who went to Japan under the Office of the Mayor's Student Cultural Exchange Program is back on Saipan after a week.

The students stayed at the homes of Japanese families and participated in some activities at the Daitoubunka Daiichi High School.

"It was a great trip. I gained really good experience on how people are in different countries," said Yu Ling Chai of Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School.

The students are from 5th

grade to 12th grade and, aside from FMS, are from Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, Mount Carmel School, Saipan Community School, Grace Christian Academy, and Saipan International School.

Making friends with students from outside the CNMI was one of the things GCA's Erin Park liked about the trip. "Saipan is such a small island and [the program provides] a new experience for those who want to see the bigger world and try new

cultures," Park said.

The trip was made possible by the Saipan Mayor's Office's Student Cultural Exchange Program, in partnership with the International Youth Affairs of Japan Koku-sai Seishonen Kenshu Kyokai.

SCEP coordinator Yuki Kishimoto said that 15 students from Japan will be staying on Saipan from Dec. 27 to Jan. 2. *(Iva Maurin)*

ARMATECH



Tel: (670) 234-8895/97 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

Open everyday of the year, providing prescription medication and healthcare essentials to the people of the CNMI for over 23 years.

PHI
Pharmacy

Diabetes Shoppe®
GOOD NEIGHBOR PHARMACY

Thanksgiving Sale

50% OFF
ON SELECTED ITEMS

25% OFF
ALL OTC ITEMS

30% OFF
SUPPLEMENTS, VITAMINS & SPORTS NUTRITIONAL PRODUCTS

NOVEMBER 11-30, 2019

Hospital Supplies • Diabetes Products

Open everyday of the year, providing prescription medication and healthcare essentials to the people of the CNMI for over 23 years.

Dandan (Joeten Dandan Center)

Tel. (670) 323-5000/01 | 235-6170/74 • Fax (670) 235-6180
Mon-Fri: 8am - 6pm • Sat - Sun: 8am - 4pm

Visit us on www.facebook.com/phiphararmacy
PHI Pharmacy...the pharmacy you can trust!

Federal Employees and Annuitants ENROLL TODAY!

Federal Open Season:
November 11, 2019 - December 9, 2019

Access to a wide range of providers locally and off-island!

Access to both GMHA and GRMC!

Air Ambulance Discounts!*

Enjoy discounts with the Calvo's Lifestyle Club!*

Healthcare that's always there for you

Please visit or call our office for more information

Oleai Center Bldg., San Jose, Saipan, MP
Phone: (670) 234-5690 Fax: (670) 234-5693
Web: calvos.net



Rated A+ by AM Best



ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION
for AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE, INC.



2018

CALVO'S
Select
Care
HEALTH PLANS

* This is a brief description of the features of Calvo's SelectCare. Before making a final decision, please read the Plan's Federal brochure RI 73-874. All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions set forth in the Federal brochure. Airfare benefit, Dental Plan and Free Gym Membership are non-FEHB benefits.

Finance still owes MVA \$5.2M

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance

still owes the Marianas Visitors Authority \$5.2 million in hotel occupancy tax collection, despite a recent \$500,000

payment, according to MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo yesterday.

Iakopo said they received the \$500,000 this month as Finance's partial payment for

fiscal year 2019.

Iakopo has a meeting yesterday with Finance Secretary David Atalig to discuss hotel occupancy tax collections and remittance to MVA.

Last September, Finance remitted \$1.5 million in hotel occupancy tax collection to MVA.

MVA said the \$1.5 million

paid a partial amount in hotel occupancy tax collection up to March.

Last Aug. 1, MVA received a total of \$1.3 million in remittance from Finance in less than a month starting July.

Last July, Rep. Joseph "Lee Pan" T. Guerrero (R-Saipan) asked Finance to transmit the \$5.1 million that it owes

MVA, saying Finance is technically violating the law with its non-remittance.

Guerrero, who chairs the House Committee on Commerce and Tourism, pointed out that, under the law, 80% of the hotel occupancy tax collection goes to MVA, while 20 percent goes to the Settlement Fund.

Hyatt turns 39 at Christmas tree lighting ceremony

Hyatt Regency Saipan is excited to light up the hotel lobby on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 6pm for the 39th Anniversary Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

All are welcome, as general manager Nick K. Nishikawa greets everyone with holiday cheer and toast to the hotel's 39th anniversary in the CNMI.

Representatives of the Make-A-Wish Foundation Guam/Saipan, Saipan Young Professionals, and Guma Esperanza will be the special guests at this year's

tree-lighting.

The Saipan Community School choir and Marianas High School Glee Club will help get everyone in the holiday spirit with Christmas carols.

The festivities begin at 5:30pm, with the main program to begin at 6pm. The lighting of the 20-foot Christmas tree is expected to happen at 6:10pm.

The schedule of events will be as follows:

■ 5:30pm: Guest arrivals and photo-op in front of

the Christmas tree and Miss Northern Marianas.

■ 6pm: Hyatt general manager Nick K. Nishikawa will welcome all guests and make a toast to the 39th anniversary.

■ 6:05pm: Nishikawa will invite special guests to the front of the Christmas tree to prepare to light it.

■ 6:10pm: Tree will be lit!

■ 6:30pm: Christmas caroling will fill the hotel lobby with holiday cheer!

■ 7pm: End of ceremony

For more information, call 1 (670) 234-1234 ext. 26. **(PR)**

POLICE

From Page 1

ment of Fire and Emergency Medical Services arrived on the scene and the victim was found faced down, in an advanced stage of decomposition. No form of identification was located within the immediate area of the victim.

The body was processed by

Crime Scene Investigators and transported to the Commonwealth Health Center, where it was pronounced dead at 5:08pm by Dr. Rodney Klasen. No cause of death was determined and the case remains open and pending until further investigation.

DPS spokesperson Adrian Pangelinan confirmed of no reports of missing persons recently, in relation to

the discovery of the unidentified victim. Pangelinan did not specify whether the victim was male or female. A source said the victim is male.

The last report of a missing person on Saipan was the driver of a vehicle that drove off the Marpi cliff last Oct. 26. The vehicle was recovered but not the driver, who was reportedly female.

GOVT

From Page 1

Authority also activated to provide transportation to the shelters throughout the day.

As of 7pm last night, Kummuri had been upgraded from a tropical depression to a tropical storm and was seen moving west-northwest at 23 mph. Maximum sustained winds have increased to 40 mph.

Kammuri is expected to maintain this heading with a slight decrease in forward speed through tonight before turning into open waters of the Philippine Sea tomorrow, Thursday.

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, Kammuri is forecast to intensify the next few days. The current forecast track takes it just south of the Marianas, then afterward it will stay well west of the Marianas and well north of Yap.

As Kummuri passes, heavy rainfall amounting of 4 to 5 inches is possible through Wednesday.

Shelters activated

Call (670) 237-8000 for transportation to the shelters. The following are the open shelters:

Saipan

- Kagman High School
- Koblerville Elementary School
- Marianas High School

- Aging Center (for medical needs only)

Tinian

- Tinian Elementary School

Rota

- Rita Hocog Inos Jr.-Sr. High School

DFEMS available

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services has been activated to help residents who need help to break down their temporary tents if needed to prepare for the storm. Residents who need assistance in breaking down their tents can call (670) 237-8000.

USCG sets PHWC 'Y' for Guam, CNMI

The U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port for Guam has established Port Heavy Weather Condition Yankee for the ports of Guam and the CNMI as of 11:30am yesterday. PHWC "Y" is set when winds above 39 mph are expected within 24 hours.

Special marine advisory

A high surf warning is in effect from 6pm last night to 6am Thursday, and a high surf advisory will be in effect from 6am Thursday to 6pm Tuesday next week. This means life-threatening rip currents will persist through early next week.

Hazardous surf is expected to build to dangerous heights of 15 to 20 feet yesterday

evening and through most of today, Wednesday. Once surf diminishes to below 15 feet tonight, surf is expected to remain hazardous at 9 feet or higher and the rest of the week into early next week.

The public is advised to avoid venturing out along north and east facing reefs and beaches as large breaking waves can knock you down and cause serious injuries. Strong rip currents will be life threatening.



Storms are dangerous for animals, both owned and unowned. This means that during a storm, owned dogs and cats need to be safely secured indoors. Do not leave animals outdoors.

Also, prepare a pet typhoon kit with the following:

- Pet food for a few weeks.
- Comforting items like blankets and toys, for when the storm becomes frightening.
- Your pet's medication and medical records, if applicable.
- Ensure collars and tags are securely fastened. Have a leash or carrier on hand, if you need to evacuate.
- Recent photo of yourself with your pet (in case they get lost and you have to prove ownership).

If you are unable to care for your animal during the storm, it is important to reach out now to family and friends. Ask them to protect your pet for the worst 24-48 hours of the storm.

Source: Guam Animals In Need

SUSPECT

From Page 1

Lexus SUV less than an hour earlier at 9:30am.

Police responded to the area and noticed a white SUV matching the description heading east along Tun Joaquin Doi Road. When police tried to stop the vehicle, the driver of the white SUV began to accelerate away from police.

Quitugua's vehicle was finally intercepted in the village of Finasisu. As police got down their vehicles to approach the SUV, Quitugua was seen fleeing his vehicle on foot and running toward a private residence in Finasisu. After a brief chase on foot, officers managed to catch

and apprehend Quitugua. He was taken to the Department of Corrections where he was booked and detained.

Quitugua is wanted on charges of robbery, kidnapping, impersonating an officer, and disturbing the peace.

According to police, they received a 911 call last July 12 at about 2pm about a theft incident at Kannat Tabla.

At the scene officers met with the caller who said Quitugua impersonated a police officer and robbed him of \$700. The victim said Quitugua fled on a white RAV4 Toyota with license plate ADD-375. The victim contacted his supervisor, who later called for police assistance.

Officers later tracked the

vehicle's license plate to a car rental company. The rental company told officers that Quitugua rented the RAV4 from July 11, 2019, through July 12, 2019.

The victim said he was led to believe that Quitugua was an undercover police officer.

Officers made several attempts to interview Quitugua since July 17, 2019, through Sept. 13, 2019, but Quitugua would schedule a date and time to meet with officers but wouldn't call or show up.

On Nov. 20, 2019, at about 3:23pm, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho signed and authorized the issuance of an arrest warrant for Quitugua, with a cash bail set at \$25,000. **(PR)**

IPI

From Page 1

Poon said they expect the processing to be done soon and the workers to be on Saipan this December.

He did not mention how many Turkish workers IPI will be hiring.

As of Monday, Nov. 25, IPI has a total 350 H2B workers: 151 Taiwanese; four Thais; 150 Mongolians; and 45 Australians, Poon said. IPI also has 131 local manpower.

Excluding 15 management staff, IPI has a total of 481 workers, Poon said.

In his update on the progress of the construction work, Poon said the east wing of the resort hotel has already been granted a conditional certificate of occupancy permit and a conditional fire permit.

For the north wing, interior fit out work is in progress, while decorative lighting, bathroom mirror, bathroom millwork, swimming pool mosaic, among others, are in progress.

Poon said the marble stone flooring has been completed.

The resort hotel's soft opening date will soon be announced, he said.

For the hotel tower, Poon said the building façade cladding, installation of guestroom exterior sliding door and glazing, and the interior fit out pre-construction phase are all in progress.

As for the external works, Poon said IPI has completed and tested the new lift station builder work in downtown

Garapan as part of the requirements.

He said IPI has completed most of the offsite improvement project except the final force main connection at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. facility at the Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant due to the site's conditions. Poon said IPI has no issue funding the offsite improvement project, that IPI has been proactive in working with CUC to resolve whatever issues they have at CUC's facility.

In his report on the construction milestone schedule, Poon said Phase 1 of the resort hotel is in progress and is expected to be completed on Dec. 31, 2019.

Phase 2 of the tower hotel's levels 3 and 13 is in progress and is expected to be finished on June 30, 2020.

Poon said Phase 3 of level 2 VIP Gaming and level 14 sky level started last June 1 and is expected to be completed on Sept. 30, 2020.

He said Phase 4 of the Beach Club started last Oct. 1 and will be completed on Dec. 31, 2020.

In a later interview with CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero yesterday, he said that, with the construction of the six villas now completed, IPI is now passing from the construction team to the operations team for the opening of the villas.

Deleon Guerrero clarified, however, that these completed villas are not necessarily open to the public because they are part of the VIP package and

are, therefore, for the casino's VIP guests only.

"So that when you are coming to the Commonwealth as a VIP player, or the so-called complimentary, the comps, the facilities are part of the comps. But it is intended to target tourists, the VIP patrons," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said IPI expects to open the villas this December. "There is no opening date as far as opening the villas to the public because it's part of the VIP package," he added.

With the facility done, he said IPI is now working on the operational side and that means staffing.

Deleon Guerrero said the villas are five-star facilities. "It might be the first five-star hotel in our region. I'm not even sure that Guam has any five-star hotel," the executive director said.

Deleon Guerrero said their concern is that five-star quality, as required by the casino license agreement, refers not only to the facility but also to staffing.

"In order for you to acquire that status, you must have, of course, a facility that is at par with the highest quality. But you must also have... five-star staffing. And that's part of the question regarding staffing, regarding training for IPI," he said.

As for the hiring of Turkish workers, Deleon Guerrero said he believes that these workers have special skills to work on some stone structures, some wall papers, and high quality tiles.

BLACK FRIDAY BLOW-OUT SALE

GOING ON
NOW

GRAB THE DOUGH & GO!
ON ALL SALES

**SUPER SPECIAL ON ALL
REMAINING 2019 MODELS**



2019 MAZDA
CX-5 SPORT



Mazda Connect
Infotainment System



Commander Control Knob



31
MPG*

STARTING AT

\$21,995 OR

AS LOW AS
\$156
PER PAYCHECK

- G2 2.5i Dohc 16-valve 4-cyl. Engine
- 6-Speed Automatic Transmission with Manual-shift and Sport Mode
- Skyactiv®, Rearview Camera5
- Remote Keyless Entry System
- Push Button Start
- 7" Full-color Touch Screen Display
- Dual Front Air Bags 7 with Seat Belt-use
- Bluetooth® 6 Hands-free Phone and Audio Capability

Customers First
Payless SuperFresh & Truckload Store
\$500 SHOPPING SPREE!!
ON ALL SALES



NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY. ASK US ABOUT \$1000 IN SHOPPING GIFT CERTIFICATES AT PAYLESS SUPERFRESH AND TRUCKLOAD STORE!



get a chance
**WIN UP TO
\$2,000!**



**GET
30 SECONDS
IN OUR
MONEY
MACHINE**

**WITH EVERY NEW
VEHICLE PURCHASE!**

\$0 DOWN!
no payments for
90 DAYS!

triplejsaipan.com



TRIPLE J MAZDA • HYUNDAI • MITSUBISHI
TEL: 234-7133 / 234-3051 | FAX: 234-3052
Beach Road, Chalan LauLau

MON-FRI: 8AM-5PM
SAT: 8AM-5PM

*On approved credit. Some conditions apply. Doc fees and registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown.
See dealer for more details. Maximum credit card payment toward vehicle purchase is \$2500. While current supplies last. 2019 CX-5 Sport total price is \$21,995.
Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$339.36 or \$156 per paycheck based on 20% down-payment and 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$20,361.60.

GHLI payments of Legislature, Judiciary employees being ironed out

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios met with House and Senate leaders last Monday to discuss a legislation that would resolve a previous veto the governor exercised when he signed the fiscal year 2020 budget in late September 2019.

Torres' chief of staff, Angel Demapan, said Tuesday that the governor, lieutenant governor, and members of the Legislature met at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill to discuss a bill that would have the Executive Branch pay for the Group Health and Life Insurance premiums of Legislature and Judiciary employees.

"It was primarily to discuss legislation that is pending in the Legislature to make some revisions in the current budget law, particularly the life and health insurance payments for the Judiciary and the Legislature," Demapan said.

He noted that the issue first arose when Torres vetoed Section 710(k) of House Bill 21-64, or the budget bill for fiscal year 2020. Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) noted in a previous interview with *Saipan Tribune* that he had assumed there was a miscommunication between the Governor's Office and the House Ways and Means Committee, which he chairs, because he cited communications between the committee and the Office of Management and Budget saying that the latter would shoulder the premium payments.

"That was the arrangement prior to the passage of the bill," Demapan said when asked if a miscommunication occurred between the Governor's Office and the Legislature.

"After the bill had undergone changes in the House and the Senate, and when the bill went back to the House for final approval, the language that was finally approved came out differently than what was initially agreed upon, forcing the [Torres] administration to exercise a line-item veto," Demapan said.

"In the same spirit, we asked the Legislature to come back and fix it and that is what they are doing today (Monday). I believe in the next session they are prepared to address that situation through a new bill," he added.

Demapan noted that nothing else was discussed at the meeting.

Saipan Tribune chanced upon House Speaker Blas "B.J." Attao (R-Saipan) and Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chair Rep. John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) leaving the Governor's Office at around 3:25pm.

Happy Thanksgiving Day Saipan!

Town House Furniture & Appliances
A Subsidiary of Jones & Guerrero Co., Inc.

KFC **TACO BELL**

BLACK FRIDAY BLAST

UP TO 50% OFF ON SELECTED FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
NOVEMBER 29, 2019
10 AM TO 8 PM

Get a **FREE Coffee and Cookie Voucher** redeemable at KFC & Taco Bell for every verified purchase at Town House Furniture and Appliances on Black Friday

Holiday Specials

PARTY PLATTERS

16 Pc. Chicken Meal
with **FREE CHOCOLATE CHIP CAKE***

FREE COFFEE & COOKIE FOR THE FIRST 100 CUSTOMERS ON THANKSGIVING DAY

*while supplies last

BLACK FRIDAY

Have a holly, jolly Samsung



This BLACK FRIDAY only, get \$50 off the Samsung Galaxy S10, S10+, Note 10 or Note 10+ and a FREE pair of Samsung Galaxy Buds!

**Samsung
Galaxy S10**

with FREE Galaxy Earbuds

~~\$99~~

\$49*

**Samsung
Galaxy Note 10**

with FREE Galaxy Earbuds

~~\$199~~

\$149*

\$80 /MO

UNLIMITED
4G LTE DATA

ite.net itecmi itecmi

*Terms and conditions apply. Offer available from November 28, 2019 to December 2, 2019. Must activate a \$50 Postpaid plan or higher with a 2-year term to be eligible for offer. See stores for details or visit www.ite.net.



CWA, SBDC teach women how to start a business

By IVA MAURIN

iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To advance the economic participation of women on the islands, the CNMI Women's Association and the CNMI Small Business Development Center have collaborated to provide a free four-week training program on the rudiments of starting a business.

"It is a program that will... give individuals the foundation to be able to help start their own business and helps provide advice," said SBDC director Nicole Babauta.

The program, "Learn About How to Start a Business," gave participants the knowledge and skills on how to become entrepreneurs, and covered four areas—how to start a business, how to write a business plan, how to understand



Participants of the "Learn About How to Start a Business" program pose with CNMI Women's Association administrator Felicidad Ogu-moro and CNMI Small Business Development Center director Nicole Babauta.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

financial statements, and how to create a marketing plan.

"Our first training was how to start a business. We talked about what do you need to

start a business. We talked about market research," Babauta said. "For the second week we talked about how to write a business plan. We went through an interactive program called life plan that helps them to create their business plan."

On the third week, participants looked at financial statements, and learned how

to read an income statement, a balance sheet, and a cash flow statement. For their last session yesterday, marketing strategies and campaigns and tactics that will help get the word out to the community were discussed.

Tribe Marianas co-founder and creative director Rob Travilla also shared his story, and shared ideas on how to

use social media to help expand a business.

There were an average of 14 participants per workshop, and two of them were men.

SBDC is under the Department of Commerce, funded by the Small Business Administration, with additional funding from the Commonwealth Development Authority.

"We try to be a library of resources for those that are looking to start their business," Babauta said. "We offer one-to-one business advising services."

Anyone who has an idea and would like to start a business can go to SBDC and get free assistance in creating a business plan. Additionally, SBDC will also direct the individual to resources that can provide capital funding, whether it's in the form of grants, or loans, or programs such as the state small credit business initiative or SBA loans for businesses.

For those wanting to start their own businesses, "have mentors that are able to guide you," Babauta said, "visit the SBDC and we will connect you with those that will be able to help you take your idea from idea to business."

Companies wanting to join Career Exploration Day sought

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce continues its search for companies and students interested to participate in its Student Career Exploration Day on Dec. 5, from 8am to 11am. Students will have on-site meetings with companies, so locations will vary per company.

The Chamber has slots for 30 more students; it currently has 70 registered students.

This event gives an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors the choice of a job

that they are hoping to learn more about and will be paired with a participating Chamber business. This is a unique opportunity that will give students a hands-on experience in the workplace with a chance to "shadow" a private-sector business leader for a half day.

Students and participating companies will be recognized at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall during the Chamber's general membership luncheon meeting from

11:30am to 12:45pm. The meeting will be followed by a student workshop hosted by the Chamber's Education and Workforce Development Committee focusing on financial literacy, interviewing skills, and life balancing tips from experienced young professionals.

For more information or inquiries, contact the Chamber at (670) 234-1750 or email administrator@saipanchamber.com. (Marc A. Venus)

Thanksgiving SALE

New Arrival on Hot Sale

5%-50% OFF

MIDEA AIRCONDITIONING
AUX BRAND AIRCONDITIONING
FREEZER
REFRIGERATOR
WASHER
WATER DISPENSER
LED ITEMS
FAUCETS
HARDWARE
HOME APPLIANCES
RECHARGEABLE SPEAKER ETC.

All rechargeable speakers have bluetooth. Lowest price is down to \$13.99

HAO'S AIR CONDITIONING

Phone: 234-0680 / 285-0680 Fax: 234-0688
For more info, check us at the store.
INSTALLMENT AVAILABLE

Located at CK across the U.S. Post Office

HEAVY EQUIPMENT RENTAL

OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Moving Services
- Land Clearing
- Tree Removal/Clearing

LIST OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT

- 50T Crane
- 25T Boom Truck
- 7T Boom Trucks
- Dump Truck
- Sky Truck / Bucket Truck
- Backhoe
- Tractor & lowboy
- Track Mini Excavator
- Wheeled Excavator
- Track Excavator
- Forklift
- Telescopic Handler
- Skid Steer Loader

Across Saipan Vegas,
Chalan Pale Arnold Road
Office No: 235-7635
Email: smellcsaipan@gmail.com

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM DR-4235, 4396, 4404-MP

PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PROGRAM

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 | Telephone: (670) 664-2374 | Facsimile: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION FOR BIDS

ITB20-GOV-015

FEMA DR-4235-MP 404 HMGP Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Water System Mitigation Project

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lieutenant Arnold I. Palacios, through the Governor's Authorized Representative (GAR), (collectively, "Commonwealth") and on behalf of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) are soliciting sealed bids for the supply, construction and implementation of the CUC Water System Mitigation Project located at various sites on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available and may be obtained at Pacific Quick Print & Post, in Garapan, Saipan beginning **November 22, 2019 for \$100.00** (non-refundable), payable to Pacific Quick Print & Post. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30-3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on **Thursday, December 5, 2019, 10:00 am ChST** at the Governor's Conference in Capitol Hill, Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Ms. Leona Deleon Guerrero in writing by e-mail to ldlguerrero@omb.gov.mp or fax to (670) 664-2408 on or before **Wednesday, December 13, 2019. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.**

Sealed bids must be marked **ITB20-GOV-015 Supply, Construction and Implementation of the CUC Water System Mitigation Project**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST December 30, 2019**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST December 30, 2019** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to a.magofna@dof.gov.mp. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than December 30, 2019 and the bid documents must be received no later than **January 9, 2020**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at 10:30 a.m. ChST, January 13, 2020. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at 10:30 a.m. ChST, December 30, 2019.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is 240 Calendar Days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be \$1,000/day.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

BREACH OF ETHICAL STANDARDS

(To be part of Solicitation for quotes, ITBs and RFPs)

- Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(a).
- Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of subcontractor or order. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(b).
- Contingent Fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-730.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a proposal if in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Francisco C. Aguon, Acting Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

BLACK FRIDAY

For everyone on your nice list.

**\$100
OFF**



Get **\$100 OFF** your iPhone and stream, surf, and play with **UNLIMITED** 4G LTE Data!*

 ite.net  [itecnmi](https://www.instagram.com/itecnmi)  [itecnmi](https://www.facebook.com/itecnmi)

*Terms and conditions apply. Offer available from 11/28/19 to 12/02/19. Must sign up on a 2-year contract on a \$50 plan or higher to receive \$100 off any iPhone purchase. Unlimited 4G LTE available on the \$80 unlimited plan. Subject to credit check. Colors and models based on availability. See stores or visit www.ite.net for more details.



Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 216

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A man was found in his apartment three years after his death—and what it can teach us about loneliness

We've seen thousands of sad stories in our time, but the case of a man found in his North Texas apartment three years after his death ranks right up there as one of the saddest.

Ronald Wayne White, believed to be a Navy vet working as a defense contractor, was last in contact with his mother in New York three years ago. He apparently moved several times and traveled extensively so several police departments told his family they couldn't treat him as a missing person, his family said.

His body was recently discovered on the floor of his apartment when workers went investigating why some tenants weren't using water for a while. Stunningly, the medical examiner ruled he had been dead three years.

There are still a lot of unanswered questions about this case. But what we do know is that a man who lived his life in this community apparently went missing for three years and no one noticed he was gone.

It's disheartening that society has reached such a threshold of disconnection that he could have no friend, no co-worker, no acquaintance to even check to see if he was alive or dead.

His rent was automatically deducted from his bank account once a month, police said. His car covered in dust was parked in the garage. Authorities don't suspect foul play.

This case reminds us that there are thousands of people among us who are in severe states of loneliness and isolation. There are reams of research that make us tune into this as the holidays approach. The reality is that loneliness profoundly grips many of us throughout the year.

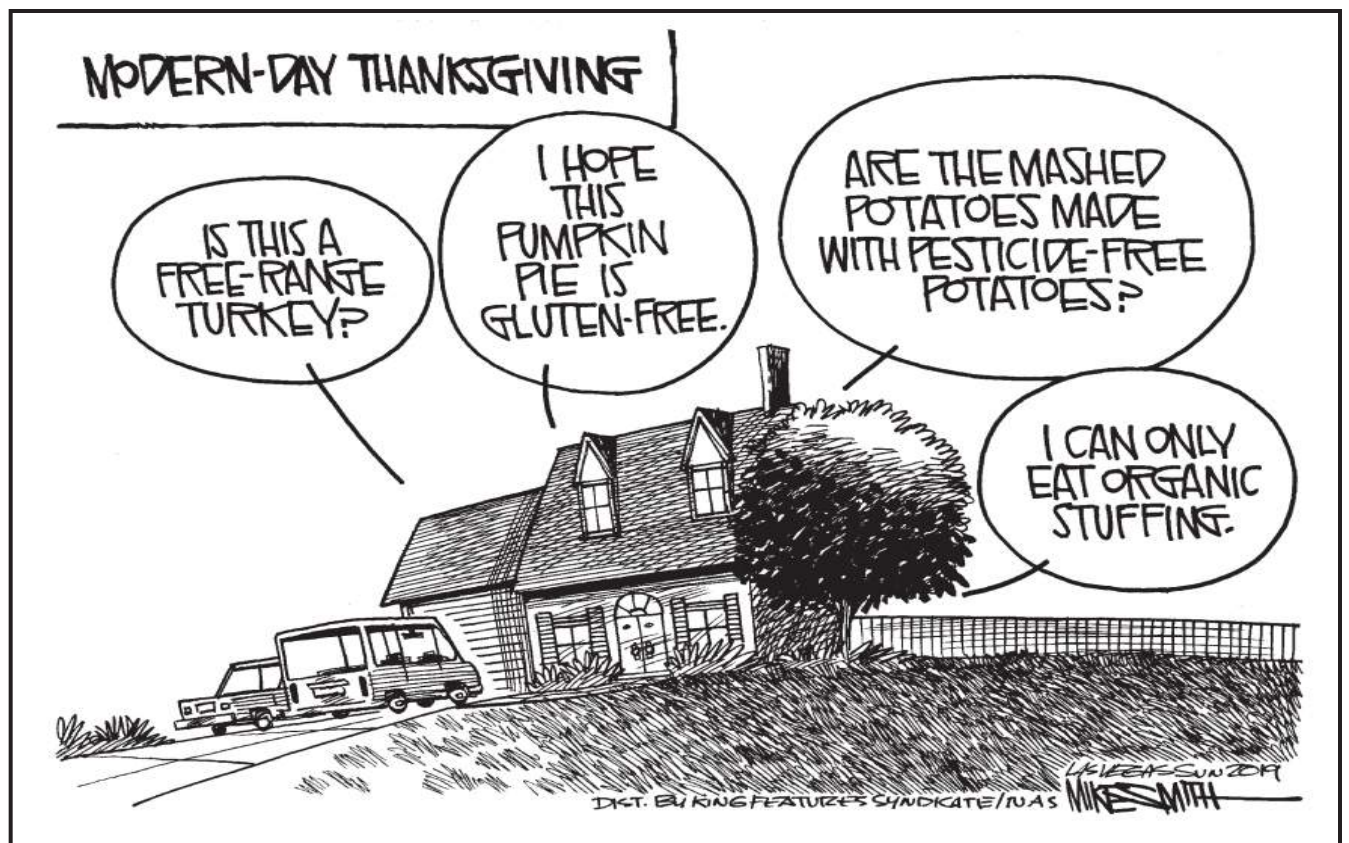
White's case drives home the importance of making real connections. There should be people in our lives who can and will reach out to at least check on our well-being or at least notice when something might seem odd.

We're more connected through social media than ever before. Experts point out that we're processing so much information we're receiving in all directions, that we're losing our ability to think and feel. It's hurting our personal connections and making us more distant and lonely. And the loneliness can negatively affect our health.

White's mother, Doris Stevens, told WFAA-TV (Channel 8) that her son was diabetic. He would have been 51 when he died.

Let's vow to actually pick up the phone to talk to or actually go visit someone we know instead of spending so much

See A MAN on Next Page



Fight with family this Thanksgiving—science has your back

One of my first observations after immigrating to the U.S. in 2013 is that Americans are allergic to face-to-face conflict. Coming from a Tel Aviv, Israel, home where every family dinner quickly turned to a screaming match about political issues before the main course, “agreeing to disagree” was new to me. I quickly learned it’s a necessary skill in the U.S.—especially in family affairs. According to one poll, close to 60% of Americans dread the thought of talking politics at Thanksgiving dinner.

The threat is so ingrained in American culture that every year ahead of Thanksgiving, the internet rolls out guides on how to “survive” the evening.

But in reality, very few Americans actually fight about politics on Thanksgiving. A 2017 HuffPost/YouGov survey found that only 3% of Americans said that they are “very likely,” and 8% are “somewhat likely,” to get into a political argument with family members during Thanksgiving dinner. The result held at 3% for people who expected both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton supporters to attend the dinner, though 20% said they are “somewhat likely” to argue.

One reason might be that people are just cutting dinner short to avoid politics.

In 2017, the Economist created the Pumpkin Index to calculate how far people are willing to travel for Thanksgiving dinner—and how long dinner lasts. The British magazine partnered with Teralytics, an American company that tracks people anonymously through mining mobile phone data (which, side note, is extremely creepy). They found that on Thanksgiving 2016, people who traveled from Democratic counties to less Democratic ones left dinner earlier. Republicans, on the other hand, stayed longer in less Republican counties.

The Pumpkin Index finding that partisanship might make some Democrats skip dessert was confirmed in a more rigorous 2018 study in the journal Science. Researchers combined people’s movement data from SafeGraph—yet another company that anonymously tracks smartphones—with 2016 voting data. Based on the way a precinct voted in the election, they assigned a likelihood that households voted Democrat or a Republican. They found that Thanksgiving dinner was typically about four and a half hours. Families that didn’t vote for the same presidential candidate, however, cut dinner about 30 to 50 minutes short.

By **ABRAHAM GUTMAN**
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Abraham Gutman is an opinion and editorial writer for The Philadelphia Inquirer.



Unlike the Pumpkin Index, the Science study found that Republican voters, not Democrats, were more likely to leave earlier. Partisanship made the biggest dent on Thanksgiving dinner length when families traveled from media markets that were saturated with political ads during the election.

That some Americans want to bail early on dinner with someone from the opposite party is disheartening. And not because of generic calls for “civility” saying we should be able to put disagreement aside and enjoy yams together—but because there is nothing wrong with disagreeing and arguing about it. You might even



change someone’s mind.

To be fair, it is extremely difficult to get anyone to change their mind about political issues—we are literally wired against it. A neurological study shows that when confronted with challenges to strongly held political beliefs, people feel threatened.

Still, some sort of change is possible.

That’s what University of California researchers found looking at canvassers in Miami. The canvassers asked people who were transphobic to talk about a time they felt that they were judged for being different. By drawing an analogy between that experience and the experience of people who are transgender, they were able to reduce prejudice and increase support of anti-discrimination laws.

Another study of an online Reddit community found that posts that change minds tend to have a calm tone, be longer, and use language that is different than the post that it is responding to—a sign of something new being added to the discussion. It also found that a back-and-forth is productive—to a point. The chance of con-

See FIGHT on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Direchu - estotbu

FBI ha gu'ut i ofissinan gobietnu gi mapus na semana. Dis-pues ha sita dokumentu ginen empleau ni mangai relacion yan Imperial Pacific International.

Taya' malagnus infotmasion haf' na macho'gue este. Mien-tras tantus, ha estotba-yu' i modun tratamientu kontra Marianas. Gua-ha direchota gumubietnan maisa hit gi papa' kontratan i Covenant.

An lai Marianas ma-isague pues sotta ya hita mismu ta husga haf' guaha na malabida. Muñga na para kaprechun federat este na asunto. Respetu!

Edukasion

Namagof i kinimiten mañaina gi edukasion famaguon-ta siha. Este na irensia i mas ma'ug yan aseguraa para i famaguon-ta siha gi preparasion futtunan niha.

Edukasion i solu fitme na pinetsige ni siña sumede famaguon-ta sumoda' felis yan fitme na futuro para siha. Ni achog este pat manu 'nai u fañaga, 'nai man-edukau siempre u soda' ginefsagan niha.

Mas mona mas impottante edukasion giya siha. Todu klasen tautau u fan mattu kontodu i man-edukau. Estague' mina' pre-sisu edukasion tautau-ta siha. Debi u fan siña gi todou fina' kom-pitensia piot 'nai ya hululu' asuntun edukasion.

Hinanau

Silensiu finagpu' ha'ane gi lemlen tautau 'nai ta rikonose haf' para sena. Mientras tantu, sige halum gi hinasso-ta asunto siha ni tafagcha'e duranten ha'ane.

Gaige i didog na chinatsaga gi suetdun popble. Mas ke 15-mit na empleau mangaige guine na estau. Makat na mattiru gi kinalamten halum guma' familia. Haf' na planu guaha para uma-adelanta este na chinatsagan familia ginen hegsu' I Deni'?

I suetdun popble dumiteni homlu' na kinalamten halum guma' familia. Diariu na dibina para umasoda'e nesessidat famaguon

‘Tis the season to be anxious

November makes me anxious. This year’s holidays are approaching with a particularly lean and nervous look, like coyotes dressed as reindeer and ready for a tussle. Nothing feels right.

Experts will advise the nervous and anxious among us, of which I consider myself a senior member, about how to cope with the deleterious effects of political, cultural and individual stress on our drinking lives over the next several weeks.

I’m kidding, of course. There doesn’t have to be drink involved. Prescription medications will do, if you have adequate coverage.

The first big family argument is like the first snowfall. It announces that the holiday season is really with us, and for the next six weeks, even a whiff of personal perspective will lead to full combat. Mix in the current state of political affairs, and we’re off, folks. Unleash the coyotes.

Everybody will have prepared an opinion, an educated analysis and a draft of the most recent email sent to their state senator about the divisive topic about which they’ve collected the most misinformation.

And they want to share.

In order to strengthen our bodies and minds for the increased pressure we’ll be facing, we the anxious need to preemptively focus on how to handle ourselves in these situations.

With health and wellness as our collective goal, let’s categorize our individual anxieties so that we can find the most effective ways to suppress them.

To properly categorize your anxieties, take this November Heightened Anxiety Quiz:

■ I am most unnerved when I recall that:

A. I have yet to buy any holiday gifts, not even for those I treasure most.

B. The last time I actually enjoyed the holidays was 1997.

C. The word “idiot” was used by the ancient Greeks to define anyone who was a private citizen and not a politician and now it means the opposite.

■ Shortened daylight hours make me feel:

A. Like I am missing the best part of my waking moments because I must spend them at work.

B. As if there is absolutely no reason to distinguish daywear from nightwear.

C. Worried about if I’m getting enough vitamin D or if I should buy one of those full-spectrum bulbs, which reliably make people look like zombies.

niha gi bandan mantension.

Estague' i dichu asunto gi lamasan lianahyan pa'gu. Guaha fitme na fina' ineppe pot satbasion este na chinatsaga?

Komprendiyun na i asunto gai minakat ya mas umakat 'nai taya' fina' planu taimanu para uma-esgaihon adelantun mone-dan familia guine siha na petlas. Ha nesessita seriusu na planu. Kau siña inna' setbe sensian mehnalum guine na patte?

Isla

Sattun na inafamauleg gi entalu' natibu mas sumimientu sensian inagofli'e yan ina'ayuda gi halum tautau-ta.

Sumen ma'ug na finanaguen mañaina-ta i para ta ekstende inagofli'e yan inayudu-ta piot i man-namase'.

Mas fitme na konfitmasion este na kustumbre ginen tradision-ta relihion Katoliku. Agradesiyun i motmut na sensian respetu gi halum tautau-ta siha guine na petlas.

Magahet na i kustumbren man-ñgiñge' sumen mauleg gi inechan sensian respetu. Fitme na ineyag saludu gi man-amko' niha. I ma'ug na sensian respetu umesablese sattun na inafamauleg gi entre unu yan todou! Sensian isla!

Tiau

Masuetteyu' tiau ginen un' talayeru. Hana'eyu' tres puñu' para kelaguen-hu. Dispues de huna' gasgas hu fogsige lemon riat yan tigise doni' sali. Abreganas para amotsan talo'ane.

'Nai mattu i tropa ya hasoda' gi kahun ais magpu' kontodu lisayun talo'ane. Lau haf' hit tachogue 'an familia. Latgaye! Ai i bishietu kanu' niniha ni kelaguen. Hu sañgane tatan niha na u eyag tumalaya para kelaguen i boys.

Sunidu

Hu apprubecha mañgge' gi laptop mientras hu kakanta un' suni-

By GINA BARRECA
The Hartford Courant

Gina Barreca is a board of trustees distinguished professor of English literature at University of Connecticut and the author of 10 books. She can be reached at www.ginabarreca.com.



■ Over the last week, I was most agitated when I realized that:

A. I have to lose approximately 27 pounds by next Thursday so that I’ll fit in the back seat of my cousin’s Toyota Yaris because otherwise I’ll be taking two buses to our grandparents’ house in Delaware.

B. My 401(k) now equals \$16.09, making the prospect of my imminent retirement less appealing.

C. That is a true thing: “The U.S. Army may need to relocate one (of) its officers after threats made by the leader of our country, a sitting U.S. senator and their ancillary propaganda,” in the words of author and activist Amy Siskind.

■ I plan to breathe mindfully as I rely on the following time-tested techniques to help accept the transition to 2020:

A. Shock and denial.

B. Pain and guilt.

C. Anger and bargaining.

D. “Law & Order” (binging reruns).

If you sought out an “all of the above” option for any of the above questions, congratulations. You’re among friends.

Anxiety is part of our lives, and it is good to make light of it. Haha. There, now that’s done.

As for the burden of meeting high standards, the worry that we’re being judged and found wanting: Let’s leave those concerns on the sideboard and concentrate on the main dish. The main dish is love. Choose the right group and there’s enough to go around — come away from them nourished.

End up with the wrong group — or even the right group at the wrong time — and although you might be fattened up with the relationship equivalent of Doritos, you’ll stay hungry for what you really need: meaningful conversation in a welcoming company of folks. That prospect soothes the most restless soul.

Expect me at 8, and I’ll bring appetizers for the coyotes. Nothing to feel anxious about at all. Haha.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

du ni hagas in' kakanta yan mañeluhu antes.

Ti huna' fonhayan pot esta mesgu lagu' matahu 'nai hu hahasu i mañge' na dinaña' mame gi un' popblen guma' gi Lali Fo. Gi halum tinaya' in' usune maseha kineman kañgkuñg para u guaha fina' katsu gi estomagun mame.

Magahet na gi hilu' minesñgun gi halum tinaya' siempre un' soda' kampu humaguñg. Makat na karera gi kañadan miserapble na pinepble. Ti hu komprende taimanu na in' ipus ayu na mattiru.

Gi hilu' bendision i Saina adumididi' in' seda' mas ginefsagan mame. Diberas makat fina'pus miserapble na popble. Bali mangagau ayudu ginen i Nanalibreta.

Mit gracias lokue' na fitme man-makreansan mame. Ni unu inna' chatsaga para bai'n fan libianu. Manu i guaha ayu in' siñgun. Adahe na amotsan hanum grifu hu daflogue antes. Pinepble!

Namase'

Para i man-pinepblen mame antes, huñgan guaha mas man-namase' ke hame. Sin inbatgu ni unu sumeha gi inaligau manten-sion familia, diariamente. Todu muna'e animu este na nesessidat pot satbasion.

In' chage dumalalag peskadot. In' usune man-e'hatsadun manog yan ayuyu gi halum tanu'. Kontodu umañg hu kone' ya hu katdun niyog para totchen mame. Paire piot ya mantika abune'ña! Ai na sopas yan hinegsa' maipe.

Minesñgun

Pot malofanyu' gi didog yan miserapble na pinepble mina' hu komprende yan agradese i asunto, pahina pot pahina. Sumen makat na fina'pus. Hoñgeyu'!

Kontodu faha' niyog in' usune para senan mame sa' ayu ha' guaha gi tatten guma'. Magofyu' ni minesñgun mame gi halum tinaya'!

Yangin hanum grifu guaha para amotsa yan sena pues ayu ha' in' usune! Man-deskansa ham dispues sin neñkanu' gi estoma-gun mame. Mit gracias gi Saina pot todou i bendisioña.

A MAN

From Page 10

time on social media. Let’s make eye contact and be mindful of other people. Let’s do things with other people, be it attending religious services or going to a ball game. We need to take better care of ourselves and our neighbors.

No one should have to die the way Ronald Wayne White did, unnoticed and all but forgotten.

(c)2019 The Dallas Morning News

FIGHT

From Page 10

vincing someone who engages back increases at first, but almost no one changed their mind after five rounds of response.

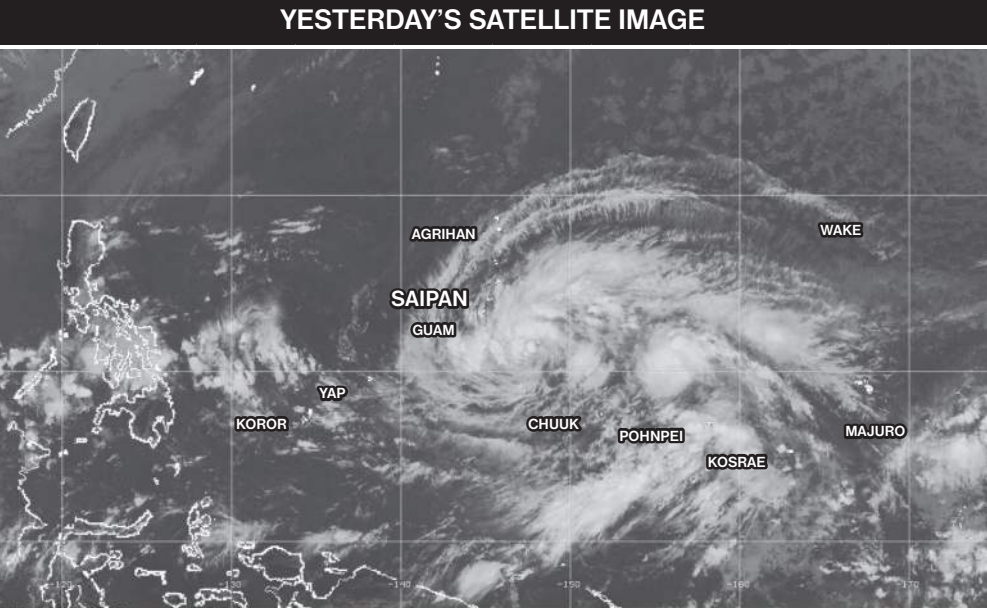
At a time of intense partisanship, a contentious impeachment inquiry, and the march ahead to 2020, politics will loom over many families’ Thanksgiving. But arguing politics on Thanksgiving doesn’t need to be a drag. Instead of cutting dinner short to avoid it, use the time with family to take on the serious issues confronting the nation. What better time to have a discussion full of long, calm, and empathetic responses than after a good meal?

One limitation of the changed viewpoints you might produce is that they seem to fade away over time. But that’s OK. You will have a chance to argue again in the December holidays.

And if someone loses their cool and the argument escalates—that’s fine, too. You might think you are allergic to conflict, but you will probably be fine, even if you get uncomfortable. Trust me, that was how I felt at every family dinner I ever had.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
Damaging winds in the morning. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 30 to 40 mph, decreasing to 25 to 30 mph in the afternoon.		Breezy. Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 20 to 25 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
85°	76°	86°	76°	87°	76°	87°	77°	87°	77°



PICTURE TIME: 11:15 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression 29W is about 350 miles ESE of Guam, moving WNW at 17 mph, and is forecast to pass about 200 miles south of Guam tonight. A Tropical Storm Warning has been issued for the Marianas. Across the Marianas waters, skies are partly sunny this morning but showers are increasing east of the islands. Seas at the buoys are 10-11 feet and rising, and northeast winds are gusting to 35 mph at Guam International Airport.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 75°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 75°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Sunny	70° / 61°	
Beijing	Sunny	36° / 21°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	73° / 61°	
Honolulu	Showers	84° / 74°	
London	Showers	54° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Rain	59° / 46°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	72° / 52°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	81° / 72°	
New York	Showers	57° / 47°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	54° / 41°	
Paris	Showers	54° / 48°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	54° / 41°	
Rome	Showers	61° / 54°	
Salem	Sunny	69° / 45°	
San Francisco	Thunderstorms	50° / 41°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	48° / 27°	
Tokyo	Showers	52° / 36°	
Washington, DC	Rain	61° / 45°	

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:54 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.55	
8:42 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.83	
2:15 PM	LOW TIDE	0.92	
7:19 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.88	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:26 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:26 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:40 AM	6:21 PM	-
Thursday	7:40 AM	7:14 PM	-
Friday	8:38 AM	8:09 PM	-
Saturday	9:33 AM	9:04 PM	-
Sunday	10:23 AM	9:57 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 27, 2019							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:10am	Daily
UA105	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:30pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily	OZ6233	8:00am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6
OZ626	2:10am	6:10am	1	OZ623	8:55am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:25am	3, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 4, 5, 6	OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily	TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN	UA184/174	12:40am	8:07am+1	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:40pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
				UA184/174	10:55pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				OZ704/6233	11:45pm	1:20pm+1	1, 3, 5 via ICN
				OZ704/623	11:45pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/6233	12:30am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:30am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)							
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
				1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily				
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily				
ROTA TO GUAM				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
				2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA				2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily	2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
				2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Christmas in the Marianas illuminates on Nov. 30

The Marianas Visitors Authority, PDM Promoters, Inc., Team PDI, and other travel partners invite the public to join the kick-off of five consecutive weeks of Christmas in the Marianas beginning this Saturday, Nov. 30, at 6pm at Paseo de Marianas.

Saturday's activities will start with a Japanese cultural performance by Saipan Awaodori, followed by a countdown to the illumination of the official Christmas Tree and Christmas trees decorated by local schools. Schools will give a brief description of their trees, which will be judged for awarding of prizes. The rest of the evening will be celebrated with Christmas caroling by elementary school students from Kagman (7:15pm), Green Meadow (7:35pm), Koblerville (7:50pm), Oleai (8:05pm), San Vicente (8:20pm), Mt. Carmel (8:35pm) Saipan International (8:50pm), Grace Christian Academy (9:05pm), Agape Christian (9:20pm), and Green Meadow Middle School (9:35pm). The school trees,

decorated with recyclable material, will remain on display at the pedestrian mall in Saipan's main tourist district until after New Year's.

On Dec. 7, Christmas caroling will continue for middle, junior, and high schools from

6pm to 10pm. On Dec. 14, a Christmas parade will be held at 6pm from Garapan Fishing Base north on Beach Road to Paseo de Marianas, where a costume show and additional entertainment will follow on-stage. The evening's entertain-

ment will also include award ceremonies for the various contests held for schools.

Dec. 21 will feature a special night with Skymark Airlines Inc., which will launch regular direct flights from Tokyo to Saipan on Nov. 29,

2019. Three roundtrip tickets on Skymark will be raffled off throughout the evening, local dance groups and performers from Japan will highlight the night's entertainment, and the winner of the Skymark Night Plane Contest will be awarded.

The final evening on Dec. 28 will be highlighted by another Saipan Awaodori team performance and annual Mochitsuki Festival, a Japanese holiday featuring the pounding of "mochi" (glutinous rice) for the new year. Holiday Rock'n in American Sign Language and other entertainers will fill the rest of the evening.

"On behalf of the MVA, our co-organizers, and our many sponsors, we invite everyone to come to Paseo de Marianas this Saturday for the kick-off of Christmas in the Marianas at 6pm," said MVA managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo. "We are looking forward to an extraordinary five weeks of celebration with some new and exciting features, and we hope everyone will make time to celebrate the holidays on Saturday nights with us."

The event is sponsored by Island Image & Motion, Hyatt

Regency Saipan, Kensington hotel Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority, and Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc. Additional support is provided by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Department of Public Lands, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, Lollipop's, Hard Rock Café Saipan, Furusato, Century Tours/iShop, and McDonald's of Saipan.

COTA shuttle service will be provided from American Memorial Park parking lot to Paseo de Marianas beginning at 5pm (last shuttle at 9:30pm) and from Paseo de Marianas crosswalk across from Fiesta Resort & Spa to American Memorial Park beginning at 5:10pm (last shuttle at 9:40pm) every 15 minutes.

For more information, contact lead event coordinator and MVA Community Projects specialist Ray Villagomez at rvillagomez@mymarianas.com or 1 (670) 664-3200/1, or for information on the Skymark Night Plane Contest, contact info@mymarianas.com. (PR)

Domenech to visit the Marianas

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Doug Domenech, the U.S. Department of the Interior's assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs, will be in the Western Pacific for meetings in Guam and the CNMI from Dec. 2 to Dec. 9. He will be accompanied by Karnig Ohannessian, the U.S. Department of the Navy deputy assistant secretary for the Environment.

"I look forward to the various meetings that we will have [in] Guam [and on] Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," said Domenech. "In addition to meeting with the governors and mayors, the Office of Insular Affairs will host a World Heritage Opportunities for the Pacific Workshop, and we will visit several cultural and historic sites, Department of Defense sites, and Office of Insular Affairs' funded projects. I will conclude my trip by participating in the Department of Defense Operation Christmas Drop out of Andersen Air Force Base."

Domenech's first stop is in Guam where he will meet with Guam Gov. Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero and Lt. Gov. Joshua Tenorio.

Domenech and Ohannes-

sian will have meetings at Andersen Air Force Base, the Ritidian National Wildlife Refuge, Naval Base Guam, and Joint Region Marianas Military Command.

Domenech and Ohannessian will also join Leon Guerrero in providing welcome remarks at the World Heritage Opportunities for the Pacific

Workshop, a workshop hosted by the Department of the Interior to increase awareness and build support for opportunities related to the World Heritage Convention and the protection of cultural,

natural, and historic resources in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, including the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Domenech and Ohannessian will then travel to Saipan and Tinian where they will meet with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, as well as Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Edwin Aldan and go on a Department of Defense-focused tour of Tinian.

Domenech alone will proceed to Rota to meet with Rota



Domenech

GAIN evacuates shelter; seeks storm fosters

GUAM—Guam Animals In Need is evacuating its animal shelter following a tropical storm warning issued yesterday. Damaging winds of 39-57 mph are expected within 48 hours.

GAIN is asking for volunteers willing to take in a shelter pet for the duration of the storm, and potentially through the holiday weekend. "Storms are stressful for animals. We're seeking volunteers to provide a warm and safe space for a shelter pet during this storm," said GAIN volunteer coordinator Cece Lara.

Call 653-4246, or visit the GAIN Facebook page, for up-to-date information on the evacuation.

GAIN reminds everyone that storms are dangerous for animals, both owned and un-owned. "We're evacuating the animal shelter thanks to the help of our storm fosters," said GAIN foster coordinator Sasha Coleman. "Foster homes help us provide shelter pets with added protection during storms."

Guam law requires that pets have proper shelter. "Don't leave your cat outside or dog tied to a tree during a storm," said Arleen Decastro, GAIN's lead animal caretaker. "Their safety depends on you."

"Please bring your pets indoors during the storm," said Cyrus Luhr, GAIN board president. "It's not just the law, it's also the right thing to do." (PR)

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CONSUELO TAIACAN NAKATSUKASA, Deceased.

Civil Action No. 19-0350 CV
NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION and NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF: CONSUELO TAIACAN NAKATSUKASA, DECEASED

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the petition of ERNESTINA NORITA MARATITA for the issuance of letters of administration of this estate will be heard before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho, Presiding/Associate Judge, on the 19th day of Dec, 2019, at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Business Plaza, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, of any, why the order should not be made.

For further particulars, please refer to the amended Petition on file herein, or contact counsel for Petitioner, Joey P. San Nicolas, P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602, Saipan, MP 96950; telephone (670) 234-7659 and email jpsn@sannicolaw.net.

Pursuant to Rule 21, NMI R. Prob. P., notice is hereby given to all creditors of the decedent, CONSUELO TAIACAN NAKATSUKASA, or of her estate, that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated this 19th day of November, 2019.

/s/ Judge Camacho, Joseph Norita

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NMHC RFP 2020-001

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE: December 13, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM

CONDUCT AND PREPARE THE ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Proposal package will be available on **November 13, 2019**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays or you may obtain the proposal package online at www.nmhc.gov.net "Public Notice/Announcements" subtitle "Request for Proposal".

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at **10:00 a.m. on December 4, 2019**, at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room in Garapan. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-proposal conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/7689; (670)483-9447; or email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Aubry Hocog
Chairman, NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Francisco C. Aguon, Acting Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB20-SNMC-010

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 20, 2019 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE, ENGRAVING, SHIPPING, AND INSTALLATION OF THE SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS LEADERSHIP MEMORIAL KIOKSU NAME PLAQUE (SIGNAGE) FOR THE 15TH SAIPAN & NORTHERN ISLANDS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ANTONIA M. TUDELA
ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF SNMC

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP20-BECQ/DCRM-011

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2019 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"MEASURED LAND & MARINE SURVEYS OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT'S (CRM) DESIGNATED AREAS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN: COASTAL HAZARDS, SHORELINES, WETLANDS & STREAMS, PORTS & INDUSTRIAL, & LAGOON, CORAL REEF, & SEAGRASS FOR THE BUREAU OF ENVIROMENTAL COASTAL QUALITY, DIVISON OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP **MUST** BE SUBMITTED VIA-EMAIL TO **MS. SAM SABLAN** BY EMAIL AT sablan@dcrm.gov.mp, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 29, 2019**. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PERSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ELI D. CABRERA
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

Business

SURFRIDER RESORT HOTEL OPENING

Triple J continues CK revival



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Surfrider Resort Hotel general manager Ryuhei Kono, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Triple J Enterprises, Inc. vice president Mike Sablan, Miss Marianas Shan-non Sasamoto, Triple J Enterprises president Jeff Jones, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres; Triple J Enterprises chair and CEO Robert H. Jones, Triple J Enterprises senior vice president Jay Jones, Julie Jones Murrell, Triple J Enterprises senior vice president Dan Murrell, and Triple J Construction superintendent Mario Valentino.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, fifth from left, joined Cabinet officials and members of the Legislature in gracing the grand opening of Surfrider Resort Hotel last Friday. Also in photo is Miss Marianas Shan-non Sasamoto.

The opening of Surfrider Resort Hotel last Friday is yet another proof of Triple J Saipan Inc.'s commitment to the revival of Chalan Kanoa.

The village used to be the capital of Saipan during Japanese period and was the center of commercial activity for decades.

"The Surfrider Resort Hotel is another testament of our commitment as we continue to provide the best quality and service to the CNMI. We look forward to continue to recharge Chalan Kanoa and give back to the very people who have helped us prosper," said Triple J Saipan chair and CEO Robert H. Jones.

Surfrider Resort consists of

52 upgraded rooms designed for modern comfort. The hotel is divided into three wings—south, lobby, and north—with the governor's suite nestled on top of the Surf Club Saipan Restaurant affording guest to wake up to views of the beach front and pristine Saipan sunsets of Chalan Kanoa.

Features of the hotel's design include:

- An open front desk area that delivers a familiar and expedited check-in and out experience.

- Flexible seating in the lobby with a sundries room inclusive of vending machines for refreshments and travel necessities.

- A cutting-edge business center with wired and wireless

Wi-Fi and a charging station for electronics.

■ Refreshingly streamlined guestrooms that provide comforts and features allowing guests to be productive during their stay and have a great night's sleep including multiple points of power conveniently located throughout the room and functional storage allowing guests to live out of their suitcase or unpack into a variety of storage options.

The Surfrider Resort Hotel offers guests two dining experience options. The Great Harvest Bread Co. located in the south hotel wing facing Beach Road and is open from 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 7am to 3pm on Sundays offering guests breakfast, freshly baked goodies, sandwiches, salads and beverage refreshments as well as the option to bring back gift sets upon their return home.

The second dining experience offered at the Surfrider Resort Hotel is the beach front restaurant Surf Club open daily from 6:30am to 10pm with a breakfast menu, an all-day dinning menu, and a happy hour menu. As the hotel's premier restaurant, guests can also book beach front parties of all sizes from small, intimate gatherings to large wedding events. For more information, contact reservation@saipansurfriderhotel.com.

For updates on room availability and rates, visit saipansurfriderhotel.com or follow the hotel on social media on

Facebook or Instagram at Saipan Surfrider Hotel.

Triple J Enterprises Inc. has served the island communities for over three decades. The Triple J group of companies has several major operations, which include the Triple J Auto Group, representing Ford, Lincoln, Mazda, Honda, Acura, Kia, and a used car dealership on the island of Guam. Triple J Motors representing Mazda, Mitsubishi and Hyundai on the island of Saipan. Triple J Commercial Tire, which services passenger cars, light trucks, and a full range of commercial vehicles and equipment on the island of Guam. Triple J Rentals, the licensee for Hertz Rent A Car on Guam, Saipan and Palau. Triple J 24-Hour Mini Mart located in Mobil in Upper Tumon, Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, the distributor of high-quality food items including Certified Angus Beef, Hawaii Water, and Tyson food products located in Guam, Saipan, and Marshall Islands and the Triple J Payless SuperFresh Truckload Store exclusively on Saipan. The Triple J Restaurant Group, which owns and operates Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster in Guam; Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., Great Harvest Bread Co. and the Surf Club Saipan Restaurant on the island of Saipan. Triple J Enterprises and owns holdings inclusive of Sandy Beach Homes, Saipan Comfort Homes, and Ocean Ridge Homes on Saipan. (PR)

McDonald's agrees to \$26M settlement with California workers

LOS ANGELES (AP)—McDonald's has agreed to a \$26 million settlement of a long-running class-action lawsuit over wages and work conditions at corporate-run locations in California, the parties said Monday.

The agreement, which estimates the settlement covers about 38,000 individuals, requires the approval of a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge.

The lawsuit filed nearly seven years ago against McDonald's Restaurants of Cali-

fornia Inc. made an array of claims including failure to pay minimum and overtime wages and to provide required meal and rest breaks.

One aspect involved overnight shifts that began on one day and ended the next day but had all hours attributed to the day the shift started, avoiding overtime payments.

Initially there was one plaintiff and eventually three others joined to represent the class of cooks and cashiers.

McDonald's Corp. said

in a statement that it takes its responsibility as an employer seriously and is committed to fair treatment of all employees.

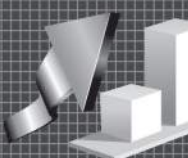
"While we continue to believe our employment practices comply with the California Labor Code, we have decided to resolve this lawsuit filed back in early 2013," the company said. "With this settlement, the parties have reached a mutually acceptable resolution and have submitted the settlement to the Court for its

review and approval."

Terms of the agreement include compensation for back wages, unpaid overnight overtime, meal and rest breaks that were missed, late or shortened and unreimbursed time and expenses for maintenance of uniforms, according to a plaintiffs' memorandum to the court.

The settlement also requires periodic training for managers and crew members at corporate-owned restaurants.

STOCK PORTFOLIO



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

28,066.47
+190.85
.68%

S&P

3,133.64
+23.35
0.75%

NASDAQ

8,632.49
+112.60
1.32%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.4742
British Pound	0.7755
Canadian Dollar	1.3307
Chinese Yuan	6.9057
Euro	0.9080

Hong Kong Dollar	7.8270	Russian Ruble	63.6862
Indian Rupee	70.9223	Singapore Dollar	1.3649
Japanese Yen	108.9570	South Korean Won	1153.78
Malaysian Ringgit	4.1354	Swiss Franc	0.9964
New Zealand Dollar	1.5577	Taiwan Dollar	29.9801
Philippine Peso	49.7651	Thailand Baht	30.1765

Nation

With testimony over, work begins on key impeachment report

WASHINGTON (AP)—The witnesses have spoken, the politics are largely settled. Now impeachment investigators will make the case for public opinion.

On Monday, hundreds of pages from Democratic Chairman Adam Schiff's intelligence committee were being compiled into an exhaustive report that will begin to outline whether President Donald Trump engaged in "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors" by withholding \$400 million in aid as he pushed Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden. The report may come as soon as next week.

There are rising political stakes for all sides. Americans remain deeply split over the impeachment question, despite hours of sometimes riveting testimony, and the country's polarization now seems to foreshadow an outcome: Democrats are poised to vote to impeach the president while Republicans stand firmly with Trump.

Sending the case on to the Judiciary Committee, which is ready to start its own round of hearings in December, provides yet another chance to sway public opinion before a House vote expected by Christmas and a Senate trial in 2020.

"The evidence of wrongdoing and misconduct by the President that we have gathered to date is clear and hardly



President Donald Trump speaks with members of the press in the Rose Garden of the White House as he welcomes Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov, Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, in Washington. AP

in dispute," Schiff told colleagues in a letter Monday. "What is left to us now is to decide whether this behavior is compatible with the office of the Presidency, and whether the Constitutional process of impeachment is warranted."

Republicans are not necessarily disputing the evidence, but insist the president did nothing wrong. While Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani pursued

the political investigations with Ukraine in what witnesses described as an irregular foreign policy channel, Republicans argue it's not clear the president directly intervened to withhold the money to Ukraine. Besides, they say, the military aid for the Eastern European ally countering Russian aggression was eventually released.

Trump gave Giuliani a vote

of confidence Monday.

"Rudy is the best mayor in the history of New York. In my opinion, the strongest mayor, the best mayor," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.

However, in a setback for the administration, a federal judge late Monday ordered former White House counsel Donald McGahn to appear before Congress. The president has tried to keep top aides from testifying, which Demo-

crats say amounts to obstruction of Congress and potential grounds for impeachment. The administration will appeal the ruling.

Some Republicans, led by Sen. Lindsey Graham, prefer to keep digging into unfounded claims that Ukraine was involved in 2016 election interference, a theory that contradicts the findings of U.S. intelligence. They also see reason to scrutinize the work

of Biden's son, Hunter Biden, for a gas company in Ukraine.

"The whole Ukraine issue, particularly the way the House of Representatives is doing it, is a joke," Graham tweeted Monday. "We're less than a year away from the 2020 election. If you don't like Trump — vote against him."

When Congress resumes next week, Schiff is expected to send the report, compiled from 17 closed-door depositions and five public sessions, to the House Judiciary Committee, where Chairman Jerrold Nadler will soon begin hearings that are expected to result in articles of impeachment against Trump.

Rather than gather additional testimony, Nadler's panel is likely to drill down into the questions surrounding impeachment and whether Trump's actions toward Ukraine meet the bar.

For many Democrats, Trump already proved the case when he released a rough transcript of a July call in which he asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for a "favor" — the investigations of Biden and the Democrats.

"The unusual fact about this inquiry is that the most explosive evidence is the first evidence we got: It was the President's transcript," said Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt. "All the other evidence is confirming it and showing how elaborate and sustained the effort was to put the squeeze on Ukraine to get the Biden investigations."

In Virginia, Bloomberg blasts Trump for Navy leader's ouster

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—New presidential candidate Michael Bloomberg traveled to the city that hosts the world's largest Navy base on Monday and blasted President Donald Trump over the recent ouster of the nation's Navy secretary.

For the first stop of his Democratic campaign, Bloomberg went to Norfolk, where he criticized Trump over the firing of Richard Spencer. The civilian leader of the Navy said he could not in good conscience follow an order by the president to allow a Navy SEAL accused of war crimes to retire without losing his SEAL status.

"The fact remains: We have a president, a commander in chief, who has no respect for the rule of law, and no concern whatsoever for ethics or honor, or for the values that truly make America great," Bloomberg told a group of reporters at a downtown hotel.

Virginia is a critical Super Tuesday state that is key to

Bloomberg's campaign strategy of bypassing early states to focus on the crush of states that vote later in the cycle. And the locale offered the billionaire and former mayor of New York City more than just the latest controversy in Washington to promote his platform.

The neighboring city of Virginia Beach suffered a mass shooting on May 31 that killed 12 people at a municipal complex. Bloomberg, 77, said that such shootings have become "almost routine" and that "we have to put an end to this madness."

Gun control is a hallmark of Bloomberg's political identity. His group, Everytown for Gun Safety, has pumped more than \$6 million into Virginia campaigns alone in recent years to support like-minded Democrats, according to the Virginia Public Access Project.

Democrats retook both chambers in Virginia's Leg-

islature earlier this month. Bloomberg said it was proof that "with the right candidate, we can turn areas from red to blue."

Bloomberg, a centrist who became a Democrat last year, joined the presidential race Sunday, just 10 weeks before primary voting begins. His Democratic rivals have already pounced on his plans to rely on his personal fortunes to fund his campaign, accusing him of trying to buy an election.

Bloomberg said Trump was a "threat to our country, to our values and our national security." But he also cast doubt on the crowded field of Democrats whose performance, he insinuated, forced him into the race.

"I think that there is a greater risk of having Donald Trump reelected than there was before," Bloomberg told reporters. "And in the end, I looked in the mirror and said that I just cannot let this happen."

Remains found believed to be UFC fighters' stepdaughter

AUBURN, Ala. (AP)—An Alabama district attorney said Monday that authorities have "good reason" to believe human remains found in a wooded area belong to the missing stepdaughter of a UFC heavyweight fighter.

The remains were found on a county road in neighboring Macon County, Lee County District Attorney Brandon Hughes told The Associated Press.

"I can confirm that human remains have been found in Macon County on County Road 2 and we have good reason to believe they are that of Aniah Blanchard," Hughes said.

Police arrested a third person Monday in connection with the disappearance of Blanchard, 19. She was last seen Oct. 23 in Auburn. Her stepfather is UFC fighter Walt Harris.

After she disappeared, Blanchard's black Honda

CRV was found abandoned more than 50 miles (90 kilometers) away at an apartment complex in Montgomery, Alabama. Auburn police detective Josh Mixon testified at a hearing last week that Blanchard's blood was found in the car and it appeared she had suffered a life-threatening injury.

Mixon testified that convenience store video footage showed a man buying a beverage look over at Blanchard. He said tipsters later identified the man as Ibraheem Yazeed, 29, and a man at the store told investigators he saw Yazeed force Blanchard into her car and drive away.

Police have arrested Yazeed and a second man, 35-year-old Antwain Shamar Fisher of Montgomery, on kidnapping charges in Blanchard's disappearance. In an arrest warrant filed with the court Monday, police said Fisher helped Yazeed by disposing

of evidence and driving him. Hughes said a third man, David Johnson, Jr., was arrested Monday in Montgomery and charged with hindering prosecution in the case.

The discovery of human remains comes after a month-long search for the missing teen whose face appears on billboards across the county.

Auburn Police said Monday that investigators "obtained information regarding the possible location of a body." Law enforcement officials searched a wooded area in Shorter, Alabama, and found what appeared to be human remains several feet into the woods.

"A complete investigation is under way by (the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency) and Auburn Police to determine the identity and how the victim came to be at that location. The examination will explore if the remains are those of Aniah Blanchard," Auburn police said in a statement.

Asia

HK leader refuses to give ground despite poll setback

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong's embattled leader Carrie Lam refused to offer any concessions to anti-government protesters despite a local election trouncing, saying Tuesday that she will instead accelerate dialogue and identify ways to address societal grievances.

Lam said the central government in Beijing didn't blame her for the election outcome that gave the pro-democracy bloc a landslide victory with 90 percent of seats and control of 17 out of 18 district councils.

Nearly 3 million voters cast their ballot in a record turnout for an election that was viewed as a barometer of public support for more than five months of pro-democracy protests. The government's refusal to compromise despite the election outcome could spark fresh unrest at a time when the semi-autonomous Chinese territory has plunged into its first recession in a decade.

Lam said Sunday's election may have reflected unhappiness with the government handling of the unrest but it also showed that many people want a stop to violence.

"Let me just stress that after these five-six months, Hong Kong people have realized very clearly that Hong Kong could no longer tolerate this chaotic situation," Lam said at her weekly news conference. "Please help us to



AP
Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam reacts during a press conference in Hong Kong, Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019. Lam has refused to offer any concessions to anti-government protesters after a local election setback.

maintain the relative calm and peace that we have seen in the last week or so and provide a good basis for Hong Kong to move forward."

In early September when she withdrew an extradition bill that sparked the protests, Lam said she had also given a detailed response to protesters' other demands including free elections for the city's leader and legislature, as well as a probe into accusations of police brutality.

She said the government

hopes to take advantage of the current lull in violence to accelerate public dialogue and set up an independent review committee to find solutions to deep-seated societal issues.

"The next step to go forward is really, as you have put it, to engage the people. And we have started public dialogue with the community," Lam said. "But unfortunately, with the unstable environment and a chaotic situation, I could not do more on that sort of engagement. I hope that the

environment will allow me to do it now."

Some pro-establishment figures have pointed fingers at Lam for their loss, while the pro-democracy camp has asked her to step down.

Protesters saw the extradition bill as an erosion of

their rights promised when the former British colony returned to Chinese control in 1997. The demonstrations have since expanded into a protest over what they see as Beijing's growing interference in the city.

Some analysts said China's

ruling party isn't likely to soften its stand on Hong Kong. Chinese media has muted reports on the poll outcome, focusing instead on how pro-Beijing candidates were harassed and the need to restore law and order.

Beijing is treading cautiously partly to avoid jeopardizing trade talks with the United States. It also faces pressure from planned U.S. legislation that could derail Hong Kong's special trade status and sanction Hong Kong and China officials found to violate human rights.

China's foreign ministry on Monday summoned U.S. Ambassador Terry Branstad for a second time to demand Washington block the bipartisan legislation on Hong Kong. Chinese Vice Minister Zheng Zeguang warned the U.S. would "bear all the consequences that arise" if the bill came into law.

China says self-confessed spy defector is fraudster

PERTH, Australia (AP)—China denied the explosive claims of a self-confessed spy seeking asylum in Australia, saying Sunday he is a convicted fraudster wanted by Shanghai police.

The Nine Network newspapers reported that Chinese defector Wang "William" Liqiang has given Australia's counterespionage agency inside intelligence on how Beijing conducts its interference operations abroad and revealed the identities of China's senior military intelligence officers in Hong Kong.

Wang claimed he was involved in the kidnapping in 2015 of one of five Hong Kong booksellers suspected of selling dissident materials. The incident has been a reference point for protesters during the ongoing unrest in Hong Kong.

He said he currently was living in Sydney with his wife and infant son on a tourist visa and had requested political asylum.

The Chinese Embassy on Sunday hit back at Wang and referenced a statement from Shanghai police, which said Wang was sentenced in Fujian province in October 2016 to one year and three months in prison for fraud with a suspended sentence of 1 1/2 year.

It said he was wanted in relation to a fraud case from earlier this year.

"On April 19, 2019, the Shanghai police opened an investigation into Wang who allegedly cheated 4.6 million yuan from a person surnamed Shu through a fake investment project involving car import in February," the statement said.

The embassy said Wang left for Hong Kong on April 10 carrying a fake Chinese passport and a fake Hong Kong permanent resident ID.

It said the Shanghai police were investigating the matter.

Wang would be the first Chinese intelligence operative to blow his cover. He told Nine Network he faced detention and possible execution if

he returned to China.

Wang claimed he was part of a Hong Kong-based investment firm that was a front for the Chinese government to conduct political and economic espionage in Hong Kong, including infiltrating universities and directing harassment and cyberattacks against dissidents.

Using a South Korean passport, Wang said he meddled in Taiwan's 2018 municipal elections and claimed there were plans to disrupt the democratic self-ruled island's presidential election in January.

Resource-rich Australia relies on China for one-third of its export earnings, but relations have been frosty for some time.

The Australian government has been trying to neutralize China's influence by banning foreign political donations and all covert foreign interference in domestic politics.

Australian Treasurer Josh Frydenberg told reporters Saturday that Wang's claims were "very disturbing."

Pope visits Jesuit Japan community that could have been his

TOKYO (AP)—Pope Francis wrapped up his visit to Japan in a very personal way Tuesday, spending the morning with his Jesuit confreres in the community that would have been his own had his dream to be a missionary come true.

Francis celebrated morning Mass in the chapel of the Jesuit-run Sofia University and visited retired and sick priests before delivering a speech on Jesuit education in the final event of his week-long Asia pilgrimage.

"In a society as competitive and technologically oriented as present-day Japan, this university should be a center not only of intellectual formation, but also a place where a better society and a more hope-filled future can take shape," he told faculty and students.

As a young Jesuit in Argentina, the former Jorge Mario Bergoglio had dreamed of following in the footsteps of St. Francis Xavier, who introduced Christianity to Japan in the 16th century.

He was prevented because of health reasons, but he joked with Japanese bishops

upon arriving in Tokyo that he got his "revenge" when he was in charge of the order in Buenos Aires and sent five Argentine priests to Japan as missionaries.

One of those Argentine priests is now the head of the Jesuits in Japan, the Rev. Renzo De Luca, who served as Francis' interpreter for the trip.

De Luca has said his former seminary rector was someone who was particularly "close" to his students, always available even though at a certain point there were more than 100 living in the seminary.

"Even in that time, it was easy to find him: He'd sit with us, cooked with us. Every so often he cooked for us," De Luca told Vatican Media. "He was someone very close to us. He never wanted to be anyone important or hard to get ahold of."

If Francis had come to Japan as a missionary, he likely would have eventually ended up at Sofia, a prestigious private university that caters to the wealthy, like many of the Catholic schools in Japan.

Overall, even publicly funded higher education

in Japan is expensive and generally reserved for the elites. Tuition for bachelor or equivalent level degrees in public schools in Japan are the fourth highest across OECD countries, after England, the U.S. and Chile, at \$5,218 a year, according to OECD data.

In his speech to students and faculty, Francis urged the school to not just be a center for elites, but to consider more marginal groups.

"Quality university education should not be the privilege of a few, but constantly informed by the effort to serve justice and the common good," he said. "The marginalized would be creatively incorporated into the life and curriculum of the university, in an effort to bring about an educational approach aimed at reducing distances and disconnects."

He also urged the university to boost its curriculum with more environmental concerns, following his own priorities and those recently articulated by the Jesuits globally as topics for their schools, churches and programs to incorporate.

World

Iran's Guard threatens US, allies over protests

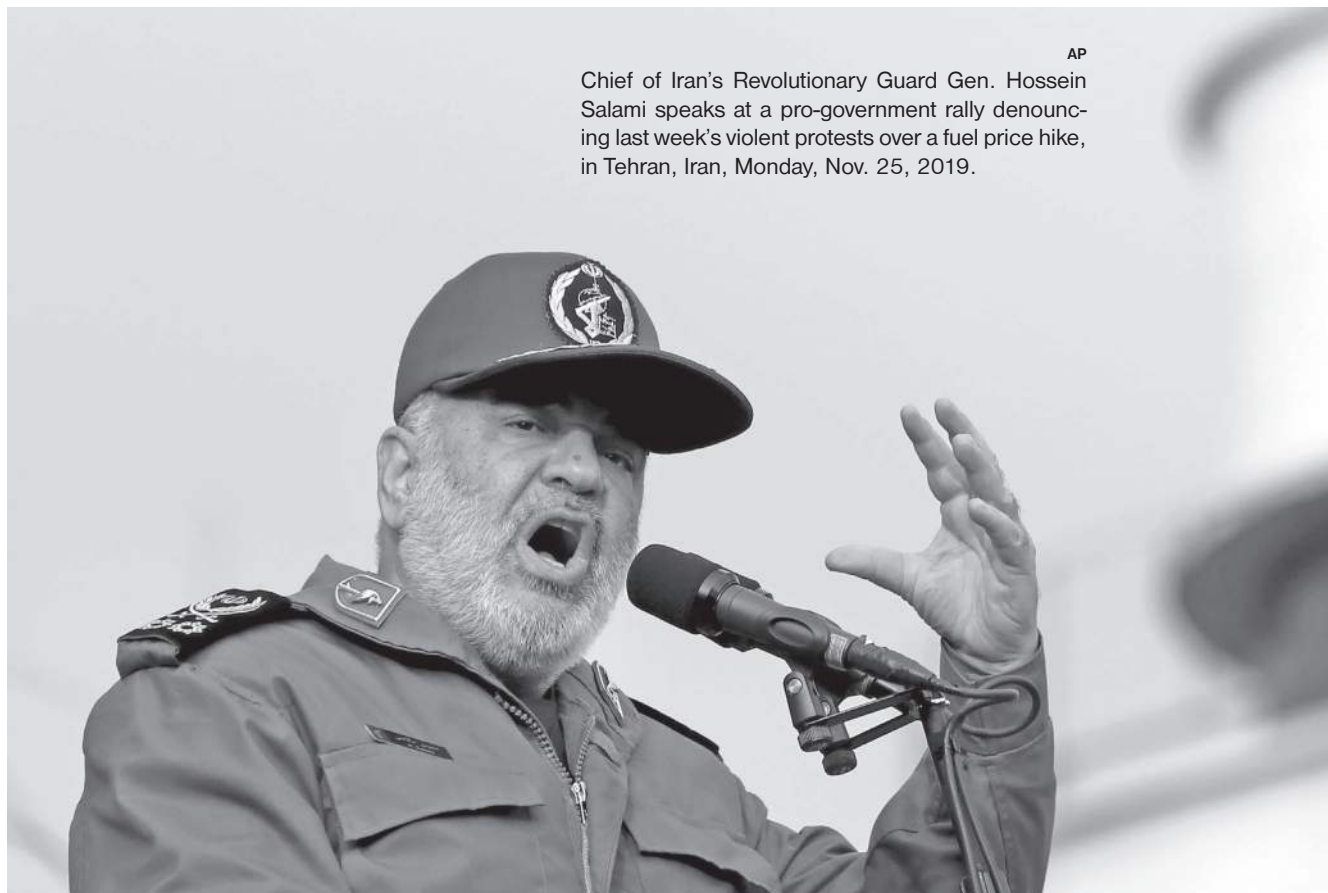
DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The head of Iran's Revolutionary Guard threatened the U.S. and its allies Monday as he addressed a pro-government demonstration attended by tens of thousands of people denouncing last week's violent protests over a fuel price hike.

Gen. Hossein Salami, echoing other Iranian officials, accused the U.S., Britain, Israel and Saudi Arabia of stoking the unrest. He said the rise in gasoline prices was a "mere pretext" for an attack on the nation.

"If you cross our red line, we will destroy you," he said. "We will not leave any move unanswered." He said if Iran decides to respond, "the enemy will not have security anywhere," adding that "our patience has a limit."

Amnesty International said late Monday that at least 143 people have been killed in the protests since Nov. 15, updating an earlier toll. The London-based rights group said it had "clear evidence" that Iranian security forces used firearms against unarmed protesters.

"The rising death toll is an alarming indication of just



Chief of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Gen. Hossein Salami speaks at a pro-government rally denouncing last week's violent protests over a fuel price hike, in Tehran, Iran, Monday, Nov. 25, 2019.

how ruthless the treatment of unarmed protesters has been by the Iranian authorities and reveals their appalling assault on human life," said Philip Luther, Amnesty's research and advocacy director for the Middle East and

North Africa.

Iran has not released a death toll and cut off internet for several days, making it difficult to ascertain the extent and severity of the demonstrations.

At the pro-government

rally, which state TV referred to as the "Rise of the people

of Tehran against riots," protesters carried signs bearing

traditional anti-U.S. slogans.

But speakers also criticized President Hassan Rouhani's administration for the way the fuel price hike was implemented, even as they called for capital punishment for rioters and further restrictions on social media platforms.

Iran has been gripped by a severe economic crisis since the U.S. restored painful sanctions after withdrawing from the 2015 nuclear deal.

In a separate development, Iran's agriculture minister resigned a day before he was to face an impeachment hearing in parliament.

The presidency's website said President Hassan Rouhani accepted the resignation of Mahmoud Hojjati and then appointed him as an assistant in agricultural and food security affairs.

Iran's parliament planned to impeach Hojjati after some of his appointed managers were arrested on corruption charges. Hojjati himself has not been accused of corruption.

First protester dies in Colombia unrest as marches press on

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP)—Students, women's activists and indigenous people marched through the center of Colombia's capital Monday in a fifth day of protests against the government as the country recorded the first death of a demonstrator.

Dilan Cruz, an 18-year-old high school student, died two days after being hit in the head by a projectile reportedly fired by riot police during a protest. His case has resonated in Colombian society, touching off a debate about excessive use of force and making him a symbol for many young protesters.

"It hurts," said Melissa Ceballos. She said Cruz was a friend who died "for asking for changes, for wanting for things to improve for Colombians."

As news of his death spread, protesters began gathering to bang pots and pans while chanting "The state killed him!" on the Bogota street where he was wounded.

President Ivan Duque expressed his condolences on Twitter, saying in a statement that he was "profoundly saddened" by Cruz's death and had shared his solidarity with the family. Duque has promised a swift investigation of the incident in which Cruz was injured.

Colombia has been rattled by protests since Thursday, when an estimated 250,000 people took to the streets amid

a strike organized by unions, student groups and indigenous organizations.

The protest was the largest Colombia had seen in years, and it has been followed by dozens of smaller demonstrations as well as looting that resulted in the deaths of three people and prompted authorities to impose a curfew in Bogota for the first time since 1977.

The unrest comes after mass anti-government demonstrations erupted in Ecuador, Bolivia and Chile. Those outbursts caused leaders in Ecuador and Chile to propose changes in economic policies and forced Bolivia's president to resign.

Some Colombian protesters say they have been inspired by the events elsewhere in the region.

"The people have awoken" said Julio Pardo, a social sciences teacher who attended Monday's march in Bogota. "We will no longer allow our leaders to humiliate us."

In response to the growing unrest, Colombia's president launched a "national dialogue" Sunday to address such issues as rural violence, environmental policy and "growth with equity."

Duque met with recently elected governors and mayors Sunday night and held talks with business leaders and some unions Monday.

He also invited the National Strike Committee, a steering

group that jumpstarted the protests to talks on Tuesday. But its leaders said Duque had only offered to spend one hour with the group, and they refused to attend.

"In one hour we cannot expose our grievances" said Diogenes Orjuela, president of the Central Workers Union. "Under those conditions we cannot start talks."

Members of the steering committee said they want a greater say over any overhaul of the pension system and labor laws as well as a tax reform plan that the government recently presented to the congress.

They have also called for more funding for public universities and are demanding a ban on fracking, a method for drilling oil which Duque has said he is open to.

It's not clear, though, how much success the movement will have in pressing its demands.

Sergio Guzman, director of Colombia Risk Analysis, said that while protests have been steady, they have drawn only a few thousand people since Friday and momentum could fade as the holiday season approaches.

"The only way for the strike committee to get an upper hand over the government is if they intensify pressure on the streets," Guzman said. "If they can't do that, they will have to lower their list of demands."

WORLD BRIEFS

At least 9 dead as heavy rain hits France, Italy, Greece

PARIS (AP)—At least nine people have died after heavy rain slammed the Riviera coasts of France and Italy, trapping travelers in their cars, and caused flooding in parts of Greece. Some roads remained closed Monday on the French Riviera, and rivers were still rising in Italy after the weekend flooding. The administration for France's Var region said four people died, including a couple in their 70s from the perfume capital of Grasse whose car got submerged. Another died after a French rescue boat sank in the Mediterranean and another was found dead in a car. In Greece, the bodies of the two men believed to be tourists were recovered late Sunday and early Monday near the port of Antirio, 250 kilometers (155 miles) west of Athens after a sailboat they were using was caught in the severe weather. Another two women died when storms hit the country's eastern Aegean Sea islands late Monday, state ERT TV said. The one died when her basement room on Rhodes flooded, while the other drowned on the island of Kos when she went for a swim in stormy seas. And in northern Italy, a woman was found dead after the Bormida river swept away her car. Rescuers are also searching for possible victims after a landslide caused the collapse of a stretch of an elevated highway near the flooded city of Savona.

Putin, Ukrainian leader chat on phone in advance of meeting

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy spoke on the phone in advance of their first meeting next month. Statements from the Kremlin and Zelenskyy's office said the Monday call included discussion of nego-

tiations between Russia, Ukraine and the European Union for Russia to keep sending gas to European customers in pipelines that cross Ukraine. A 2009 dispute left many European countries with gas shortages in mid-winter. Zelenskyy's office also said he insisted that Russia return documents from three Ukrainian naval ships that were seized by Russia in 2018 and returned to Ukraine last week. Neither statement mentioned the planned Dec. 9 meeting in Paris with the leaders of France and Germany. The meeting is aimed at resolving the conflict between Ukrainian forces and Russia-backed separatist rebels.

Migrant truck deaths suspect pleads guilty to lesser charges

LONDON (AP)—A truck driver charged with manslaughter over the deaths of 39 Vietnamese migrants whose bodies were found in the back of a vehicle he had allegedly been driving pleaded guilty Monday to lesser charges, as police made a new arrest in the case. Northern Irish trucker Maurice Robinson, who is accused of being part of an international people-smuggling ring, admitted plotting with others to assist illegal immigration and acquiring criminal property. Robinson, 25, appeared at London's Central Criminal Court by video link from prison. He wasn't asked to enter pleas to 39 counts of manslaughter and conspiracy to traffic people, and he faces another court hearing Dec. 13. The bodies of 39 people were found Oct. 23 in the English town of Grays, east of London. Police say the victims were all from Vietnam and were aged between 15 and 44. The 31 men and eight women are believed to have paid people traffickers for their clandestine transit into England.

Focus



By KEN MORITSUGU
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Analysis:

Hong Kong

election shows desire for change

HONG KONG (AP)—The people of Hong Kong have said in no uncertain terms that they want change. The question is whether they will get it — or a return to the violent protests that have plagued the city for nearly six months.

Voters came as close as they can, in what is a semi-autonomous Chinese territory, to voting out the government.

They can't directly select the city's leader and elect only half the legislature. So they turned out in record numbers Sunday for the only fully democratic elections in town, kicking out the pro-government and pro-Beijing forces that dominated the city's 18 district councils.

The election cleared up any doubts people may have had about Hong Kong's silent majority.

The central government in Beijing has portrayed the protests as the work of a small group of rioters wreaking havoc, disrupting and even endangering the lives of Hong Kong's 7.4 million people in the process.

Pro-government candidates said a vote for them would be a vote to end the violence and restore stability in the city.

The black-clad protesters

believed they still had public support — including the office workers who joined lunchtime demonstrations in a central business district — even as they smashed storefronts, threw gasoline bombs and blocked rush hour traffic and trains in escalating tactics designed to get the government to bend to their demands, including full democracy and police accountability.

The protesters, it seems, were right. The pro-democracy forces trounced the ruling pro-Beijing camp in the election, taking control of 17 of the 18 district councils.

It would be too simple to see it as an endorsement of violent protest.

"We have our point of view, we have our demand, but we are not willing to see Hong Kong in turmoil," said Kim Wah Chung, a commentator and assistant professor at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. "We also want to

restore stability like the Hong Kong government."

Rather, voters are more likely to blame the intransigence of the government, and secondly the police for its harsh crackdown, before the youthful protesters themselves for the spiraling violence.

Many also share the concern of protesters about growing Chinese influence over the former British colony, which was returned to China in 1997, and the erosion of their rights under the "one country, two systems" framework that gives Hong Kong its own legal system and government.

What they want is for the government to address the demands of the protesters as a way to end the violence, rather than reject them and rely on the police to restore order.

City leader Carrie Lam has been adamant in saying that the violence must stop before real dialogue can begin.

Instead, the violence has

gotten worse, as the police have progressed from pepper spray and tear gas to water cannons, and the protesters from bricks to gasoline bombs and bows and arrows.

"It seems that people in Hong Kong are quite determined to show the government that they are not happy about that," Chung said. "They really want the government to change course and do something (else) to restore stability, instead of just trying to use force."

Lam said in a statement Monday that her government "will listen to the opinions of members of the public humbly and seriously reflect," but gave no indication of any change in strategy.

After months of clashes, the police have become the enemy for many of the protesters, and one of their main demands is for an independent investigation into the use of force to suppress the demonstrations.

One way out could be a re-

view of both police and protester actions during the months of unrest, but that would be a major reversal for Lam, who has steadfastly supported police officers and their actions.

In Beijing, the election results could prompt the government to reconsider its approach to the crisis, which has been to express support for Lam and the police while not intervening directly.

The military has several thousand troops in Hong Kong, but deploying them is a last resort as it would revive memories of the bloody crackdown on pro-democracy student protesters in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in 1989 and bring widespread condemnation from the U.S. and other western powers.

Beijing has been firm in its refusal to make concessions to the democratic camp, reflecting its grip on political power in both Hong Kong and the mainland.

AP
Newly-elected pro-democracy district council members chant slogans as they gather near the Polytechnic University in Hong Kong, Monday, Nov. 25, 2019. Hong Kong's pro-democracy opposition won a stunning landslide victory in weekend local elections in a clear rebuke to city leader Carrie Lam over her handling of violent protests that have divided the semi-autonomous Chinese territory.

"I would suppose the central government must be aware that the majority of Hong Kong's people are dissatisfied with Carrie Lam, her government and the police, but there is no other real option," said Shi Yinhong, a Renmin University international relations specialist.

There may be some policy tweaks, but Beijing is likely to stay the course of supporting Lam, Shi said.

The election brought a respite in the unrest, as protesters focused on getting the vote out to support their cause — and not give the government a reason to postpone the vote because of the violence.

They haven't made their plans clear or whether, if the government still doesn't respond to their demands in the wake of the election setback, they will return to the streets.

Good Housekeeping

Set the table early, and other tips for Thanksgiving hosts

By KATIE WORKMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hosting Thanksgiving isn't for the faint of heart. There are more dishes than you might usually serve. More timing concerns because of that. More pots and plates to wash. And perhaps more family dynamics, buried deep below the surface for the other 364 days a year, that threaten to bubble up through the gravy.

Well, I can't do anything about your family dynamics (if I could I would start closer to home). But I can share tips and tricks I've picked up over the years, along with advice from some other Thanksgiving Dinner pros.

MASHED POTATOES

There are two basic ways to make potatoes for mashing.

- 1) Boil and then peel them. Peeling potatoes can be a drag (though if you need a kitchen task to give an eager family member, this is a good one). But if you boil your potatoes whole in their skins until tender (about 20 to 25 minutes), then transfer them to an ice bath (a big bowl of ice water) and let them sit for 20 to 30 seconds, the skins will slide right off. Then you can go right ahead and mash them.
- 2) Bake your potatoes. Megan Scott and John Becker, authors of the new "Joy of Cooking," explain, "Baking the potatoes dries them out a bit more, allowing for maximum butter/cream/dairy absorption and a fluffier texture. You can bake them at the same time as the turkey." A medium russet potato will bake in approximately 1 hour at 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Just pierce them a few times with a



This May 2019 photo shows a plate of turkey, mash potatoes and gravy and a side of sauteed broccoli rabe, corn and onions with crispy bacon, on a table in New York. If you remember that the turkey breast will take less time to cook than the legs, and that you can get a head start on your gravy, Thanksgiving will be a whole lot less stressful.

knife and set them directly on an oven rack. Once baked, cut them open and scoop out the insides for mashing.

TURKEY ROASTING

As Scott and Becker note, "A turkey is actually two roasts in one. The breast is thick, lean and will begin to overcook the minute it exceeds 165 degrees Fahrenheit. The leg quarters, on the other hand, are bonier, fattier and practically impossible to overcook. In fact, we find that they have the best texture when cooked to 175 degrees or above."

They recommend separating the legs from the breast toward the end of cooking to get both dark and white meat perfect.

"When the breast reaches an internal temperature of 155-160 degrees Fahrenheit, remove the turkey, and carefully (using a dish towel and a sharp knife) cut off the whole legs," they say. "Return the leg quarters to the pan and cook them until they register

an internal temp of 175 degrees. Meanwhile, tent the breast loosely while the legs finish cooking."

If you want to warm up the breasts before cutting and serving, they suggest adding them to the back of the pan at the end. True, you don't end up with a whole turkey dramatically presented and carved at the table, but Scott and Becker are right that "your guests will appreciate a properly cooked turkey more than a turkey as centerpiece."

STUFFING

Sure, you can use a mix, but Daniel Leader, cookbook author and bread baker in New York's Hudson Valley, suggests making your own. You might be surprised by the bread he recommends, and an intriguing secret ingredient: "I love to use slightly dark, gnarly sourdough bread with its nooks and crannies for stuffing. I cut up a little over a pound of bread into 1-inch cubes and mix with a generous 1/3 cup of local bourbon from

Tutthilltown Distillery nearby in Gardiner, New York. I saute a mix of onions, celery, carrots, local honey crisp apples, garlic, fresh thyme, rosemary, combine it all, and add chicken stock as needed."

Leader stuffs his bird with the mixture, but you can also bake it separately.

GRAVY

Bill Smith, recently retired chef at Crook's Corner in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, has had the good fortune to be a guest at an old friend's home for years, and his sole task is to make the gravy. He does a lot of the prep ahead of time, and lets the giblets do some of the heavy lifting.

Put the neck and all the giblets except the liver in a saucepan of cold water and simmer until they are well done, he says. You can do this the day before and degrease the cooled broth later. Chop up the gizzard and heart and

shred the meat from the neck-bone. Then, just before dinner, when the bird is done, move it to a platter to rest. Pour off as much fat from the roasting pan as possible, while saving as much of the juices as you can. In a jar with a tight lid, shake a few tablespoons of all-purpose flour into the cold broth until it is completely combined. Put the roasting pan with the remaining cooking juices on the stove over high heat.

"Grab whatever wine is nearby (I have used both red and white) and pour a generous cup into the pan," Smith says. "Use a whisk to swirl it around and reduce it by half. Add your broth-flour slurry, pouring it through a sieve, and whisk and reduce to the thickness that you prefer. Taste for salt and pepper and stir in the chopped giblets."

GRATE YOUR BUTTER

If you are making your own pie crust, first, wow, good for

you. And second, instead of cutting the butter into the flour mixture, which is messy and time consuming, try grating it. Take cold butter straight from the fridge and grate it on the large holes of a grater. Mix the flakes into the dry ingredients, then add your liquid. This also works for streusel toppings.

VEGAN FRIENDLY

Isa Chandra Moskowitz, a vegan chef and author, suggests using olive or coconut oil instead of butter to help turn vegetarian dishes vegan. This works for stuffing if the bread and vegetable broth are also vegan, for candied yams, and for any vegetable you need to saute or roast. She also suggests making smaller, vegan versions of dairy-rich dishes. For mashed potatoes, for example, "set aside a few potatoes for your vegan guests and mash with olive oil, salt and pepper for yummy smashed potatoes."

Be a cut above

For cooks, the pressure of Thanksgiving isn't only about preparing the big bird; it's also about turning the unwieldy chunk of meat into portions your guests can fit on a fork — or, in the case of the drumsticks, perhaps in their fists. Here are steps that will walk you through the process, one slice at a time.

1 First . . . wait!

Place your cooked turkey on a cutting board (a damp kitchen towel under the board will keep it from slipping); let the turkey rest for 15 to 30 minutes before you carve it; you might want to roll up your sleeves at this point.

2 The legs

Gently pull the leg away from the body until it pops out of the socket; cut through the socket area with a knife or break it off by hand; repeat with second leg.

3 Thighs and drumsticks

Separate the thigh from the drumstick by cutting through the joint that connects the two; wiggle it to find the joint; slice the thigh meat parallel to the bone; either cut the meat off the drumstick or serve it whole.

4 The breasts

Cut off the breast meat in two big chunks, one on each side, by slicing close to the breastbone as close as you can.

5 Portion the breasts

Slice the meat against the grain and try to keep a nice piece of crispy skin for each portion; fan it out on the serving dish.

6 The wings

Cut off the wings and serve intact, or save for soup; cut out and save the wishbone; you never know when you might need it.

Turkey napkin folding

To form body

1. Start with a square paper dinner napkin completely unfolded; fold the top right and left corners to meet in the middle

Your napkin should look like this

2. Make a second fold to meet in the middle

Your napkin should look like this

3. Make a third fold to meet in the middle

Your napkin should look like this

4. Fold the napkin to form the neck

Your napkin should look like this

5. Fold tip down to create the beak

Your napkin should look like this when standing upright

6. Unfold a separate dinner napkin to form a long rectangle

7. Fold the napkin accordion-style from the shorter edge, leaving about 3 in. (7.6 cm) of napkin unfolded

8. Turn napkin over so the accordion portion faces down

9. Fold in half

10. Fold and tuck the unfolded portion of the napkin into the center accordion slot

Your napkin should look like this

11. Spread the feathers flat and place behind the neck of the turkey on top of the body

Source: mychinet.com
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Life & Style

Thieves steal 'priceless' jewels from Dresden museum

BERLIN (AP)—Thieves broke into Dresden's Green Vault, one of the world's oldest museums, early Monday morning, making off with three "priceless" sets of 18th century jewelry that German officials said would be impossible to sell on the open market.

The treasury of Augustus the Strong of Saxony was established in 1723 and today contains around 4,000 objects of gold, precious stones and other materials on display in Dresden's Royal Palace.

Authorities said it appeared the thieves had broken open only one glass case containing three sets of Baroque jewelry made up of dozens of gems each.

"This is a bitter day for the cultural heritage of Saxony," the state's interior minister, Roland Woeller, told reporters.

He said the thieves "stole cultural treasures of immeasurable worth—that is, not only the material worth but also the intangible worth to the state of Saxony, which is impossible to estimate."

Police said they have estab-

lished a special investigation team, code-named 'Epaulette' and comprising 20 specialist officers, to solve the case. Museum officials said the sets that were stolen included intricate and dazzling brooches, buttons, buckles and other items.

Green Vault director Dirk Syndram stressed that the collections in the museum have "invaluable cultural value"—particularly their completeness.

"Nowhere in any other collection in Europe have jewels or sets of jewels been preserved in this form and quantity," he said. "The value is really in the ensemble."

Police said they were alerted shortly before 5 a.m. by unarmed museum security guards who had spotted two burglars inside the downtown museum on video surveillance cameras.

The first officers arrived on

the scene within minutes but the thieves had already fled in a waiting getaway car, which managed to elude immediate attempts to find it in the surrounding area and on the nearby highway, Dresden police chief Joerg Kubiessa said.

Police later confirmed that an Audi A6 matching the description of the getaway car was found burned in an underground parking lot in Dresden.

"It's not just the State Art Collections that was robbed, but us Saxons," tweeted Michael Kretschmer, the governor of Saxony, where Dresden is located. "One can't understand the history of Saxony without the Green Vault."

Investigators suspect that a fire at an electrical junction box near the museum, which took out the streetlights at the time of the robbery, was linked to the crime, police said. The

outrage affected lights in front of a window through which the thieves gained entrance, somehow getting through bars and safety glass to reach the Jewel Room.

Security footage released by police shows two hooded figures entering the room, then smashing open the glass case with an ax.

"In total, the entire crime only took a few minutes," police said in a statement.

Dresden's State Art Collections director, Marion Ackermann, said it was impossible to estimate the value of the items.

"We cannot give a value because it is impossible to sell," she said, appealing to the thieves not to break the ensembles into pieces. "The material value doesn't reflect the historic meaning."

Woeller pledged that investigators would "do ev-



AP
Undated photo provided by the State Art Collection in Dresden shows an Epaulette of the Diamond Rose.

AP
Undated photo provided by the State Art Collection in Dresden shows a jewel set in a palmette shape.

AP
Undated photo provided by the State Art Collection in Dresden shows a Breast Star of the Polish White Eagle Order.

everything in (their) power not only to bring the cultural treasures back, but to capture the perpetrators."

Exhibition rooms at the museum focus on treasures featuring jewels, ivory, silver and amber among other objects.

Art, treasure and jewel heists in Europe

BERLIN (AP)—A brazen burglary Monday at a German museum holding priceless treasures is another in a long

history of daring European heists over the years.

German police said it was too early to estimate the value

of the items stolen from Dresden's Green Vault, one of the world's oldest museums, and museum officials called the

objects "priceless."

Here's a look at some other spectacular thefts in Europe in recent years.

SWEDISH SMASH AND GRAB

In a daring daytime heist, thieves in Sweden smashed glass show cases inside a cathedral and snatched 17th-century royal treasures estimated to be worth 65 million kronor (\$7 million) last year.

They made their getaway on stolen bicycles and then fled by motorboat via the vast system of lakes west of Stockholm.

The two crowns and an orb were later discovered in a garbage bin north of Stockholm.

Two men were convicted and imprisoned for the theft.

GOLDEN COIN

Burglars broke into Berlin's Bode Museum in March 2017 and made off with a 100-kilogram (221-pound) Canadian gold coin known as the "Big Maple Leaf."

The suspects are believed to have smashed a protective case and then managed to lift the coin out of a museum window before fleeing along a rail track with their haul in a wheelbarrow. After getting away with it, they are accused of later cutting up the coin, valued at about 3.75 million euros (\$4.33 million), and selling the pieces.

Four men are currently on trial in the case—three accused of the break-in and a fourth, a security guard at the museum, on allegations he helped with their plan. They deny the charges.

POSH TRICKSTERS, CROSS-DRESSING CROOKS

In 2009, two elegantly dressed men walked into the Graff Diamond Store in London's high-end Mayfair district and carried away necklaces, watches, rings and bracelets worth more than 40 million pounds (\$51 million, at today's exchange rate).

While Christmas shoppers strolled outside the posh Harry Winston jewelry shop near Paris' famed Champs-Elysees in 2008, armed thieves—some dressed as women and wearing wigs—entered the store and stole gems and jeweled watches worth up to \$85 million.

THE ITALIAN JOB

In January 2018, thieves stole precious Indian jewels from the famed Al Thani Collection that were on show at the Doge's Palace in Venice, including a pendant featuring a 10-carat diamond.

Surveillance footage showed one of the thieves calmly opening a showcase window, pocketing the gems and sauntering off. Police say the alarm was triggered only a minute later, giving the thieves time to escape.

Croatian police later arrested four suspects, one of whom was believed to be linked to several major heists in Europe and the notorious, multinational "Pink Panther" gang of thieves.

POPULAR ART

In 2008, three men wearing ski masks walked into the Buehrle museum in Zurich a half-hour before closing time on a Sunday. While one used a pistol to force museum staff to lie on the floor, the two others swiped four paintings by Cezanne, Degas, Van Gogh and Monet worth \$163 million. Shocked police called it one of the biggest heists in European history. The Van Gogh and Monet paintings were recovered.

A year before the Zurich heist, two Picasso paintings worth nearly \$66 million and a drawing were stolen from the Paris home of the artist's granddaughter in an overnight theft.

In 2004, two Edvard Munch masterpieces, "The Scream" and "Madonna," were taken from the Munch Museum in Oslo, Norway, by three men wielding firearms in a daylight raid. The paintings, insured for \$141 million, were recovered with little damage two years later.

In 2003, a \$65-million Leonardo da Vinci painting was stolen from Drumlanrig Castle in southern Scotland by two men who joined a public tour and overpowered a guide. It was recovered four years later.

FASHION WEEK FRIGHT

In October 2016, robbers allegedly forced their way into the apartment where Kim Kardashian West was staying during Paris Fashion Week, tied her up and stole more than \$10 million worth of jewelry.

Ten people have been charged in the case. The alleged mastermind wrote the reality TV star an apology letter from his prison cell.

OFFSCREEN DRAMA AT CANNES

Cannes has a reputation not only for its film festival glamour but also for its dramatic heists.

In 2015, thieves—one wearing an old-man mask—walked into the Cartier boutique on Cannes' Croisette seaside promenade in the middle of the morning and walked out with millions of dollars' worth of jewelry and watches.

Then, in 2013, thieves stole Chopard jewelry from a hotel room safe during the festival, a crime that drew parallels to Sofia Coppola's "The Bling Ring," which was screening that year.

And two months later, a lone gunman pulled off one of the biggest jewelry heists of all time, stealing \$136 million worth of diamond jewelry from Cannes' Carlton Hotel—a location for Alfred Hitchcock's classic "To Catch a Thief."

A VAN GOGH HOMECOMING

Two paintings by Vincent van Gogh went back on display in Amsterdam in 2017—more than 14 years after thieves ripped them off the walls of the Van Gogh Museum during an audacious nighttime raid.

Italian police discovered the paintings, "View of the Sea at Scheveningen," and "Congregation leaving the Reformed Church in Nuenen," during a raid targeting Italian mobsters.

AIRPORT HEISTS

European airports have provided a stage for some audacious jewel thefts.

In a carefully planned 2013 heist, thieves cut through a fence at the Brussels airport, drove to a Switzerland-bound plane and snatched an estimated \$50 million in diamonds.

In 2005, thieves threatened guards and hijacked an armored car from Dutch carrier KLM's cargo ramp at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport, making off with millions in diamonds and jewelry.

Bill Cosby vows no remorse, expects to serve 10-year maximum

COLLEGEVILLE, Pa. (AP)—Bill Cosby says he's prepared to serve his 10-year maximum sentence for sexual assault rather than show remorse for a crime the comedian says he didn't commit. Cosby is serving three to 10 years in a state prison near Philadelphia after a jury last year convicted him of sexually assaulting a Temple University employee in 2004. The 82-year-old says the Pennsylvania parole board

is "not going to hear me say that I have remorse." He thinks it's therefore unlikely he'll be released early.

He made the comments in a phone interview on Sunday with BlackPressUSA as he appeals his felony conviction and sex offender status.

Legal experts say sex offenders typically must show remorse to be considered for parole.

Cosby is best known for his 1980s-era sitcom, "The Cosby Show."

Mexican actor, French man let go a day after abduction

MEXICO CITY (AP)—A French citizen and a Mexican actor who played secondary roles in the Telemundo TV narco series "El Señor de los Cielos" were let go by their abductors Monday, a day after robbers snatched them and stole the SUV they were driving in near a popular mountain peak west of Mexico City.

The Mexico State prosecutor's office confirmed in a statement late in the day that actor Alejandro Sandí and the unidentified French citizen had been released, and "are in good health." It gave no other details. France's Foreign Ministry also reported their release without giving any other in-

formation.

Two actresses who are friends of Sandí had posted a video on social media sites early Monday saying they had filed a crime report about Sunday's incident.

Actress Esmeralda Ugalde said she was driving in an SUV with Sandí and another actress when thieves cut them off, took Sandí and the vehicle.

The Nevado de Toluca is a snow-capped volcanic peak and a popular weekend getaway for capital residents.

The French Foreign Ministry had refused to give the name or other details about the abducted French citizen for security reasons.

NAACP Image Awards to be televised on BET for first time

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The NAACP Image Awards will be televised for the first time on BET.

NAACP and the cable network announced Monday that the 51st awards ceremony will be held in Pasadena, California, on Feb. 22. The event will spotlight the contributions of

the NAACP and its impact on the community.

NAACP President and CEO Derrick Johnson says the collaboration between the organization and BET will be "critical to reaching our shared communities" before heading into the 2020 election and census.

T.I. apologizes and says he was joking about 'hymen' comment

NEW YORK (AP)—Rapper T.I. says he was joking when he said he goes to the gynecologist with his daughter every year to make sure her hymen is "still intact."

The performer, who re-

ceived backlash when the comments went viral earlier this month, told Jada Pinkett-Smith on Monday's episode of "Red Table Talk" that he also apologized to his daughter.

Says T.I.: "I began to em-

bellish and exaggerate, and I think a lot of people kind of took it extremely literal."

Planned Parenthood and others blasted T.I. when he told the "Ladies Like Us" podcast that he takes "yearly trips

to the gynecologist" with his now 18-year-old daughter.

T.I. says he went to the gynecologist with his daughter when she was 15 and 16, not 18. He adds that his daughter's mom was present at the appointments.

Melania Trump receives official White House Christmas tree

WASHINGTON (AP)—Melania Trump opened the holiday season in the nation's capital Monday by accepting delivery of the official White House Christmas tree.

Members of the U.S. Marine Band played "O Christmas Tree" as a pair of horses named Cash and Ben trotted up the White House driveway pulling a green carriage that carried an 18 ½-foot (5.49 meter) Douglas fir. The towering tree will become the centerpiece of Christmas in the White House Blue Room.

The first lady appeared moments later, escorted by a military aide, and smiled, waved and chatted up the top-hatted men holding tight to the reins. She walked around the carriage and paused to look at the tree before posing for photos with the Pennsylvania farmer who donated it.

Mrs. Trump wished everyone a "Merry Christmas" before going back inside the White House.

Delivered three days before Thanksgiving, the fir was harvested from Mahantongo



First lady Melania Trump shakes hands with Larry Snyder as she looks over the 2019 White House Christmas tree as it is delivered to the White House in Washington, Monday, Nov. 25, 2019. AP

Valley Farms in Pitman, Pennsylvania. Owner Larry Snyder earned the honor of presenting the White House a tree from his farm after winning an annual contest held by the National Christmas Tree Association.

The White House chief usher and grounds superintendent picked the tree during an October visit to Snyder's farm. A massive chandelier that hangs in the oval-shaped Blue Room is removed to accommodate the tree, which is trimmed and anchored to the ceiling for safety and stability.

The tree's delivery marks the start of a flurry of holiday season activity at the White House.

President Donald Trump

is scheduled Tuesday to participate in another seasonal ritual when he issues a presidential pardon to the National Thanksgiving Turkey before he flies to Florida to spend the holiday with his family at his Palm Beach home. The White House is sponsoring an online contest to help decide which of two gobblers - 45-pound (20.41 kilogram) "Bread" or 47-pound (21.32-kilogram) "Butter" - should be spared.

Meanwhile, during Trump's absence from Washington, an army of volunteer decorators, florists and others will fly in from around the country after Thanksgiving to help decorate the 132-room executive mansion for Christmas. Thousands

of tourists will stream through the building in December.

Wreaths are already in place on exterior windows on the South Portico of the White House.

Christmas planning starts several months out.

In late July, Mrs. Trump tweeted photos of herself in the Map Room looking over a table covered with fabric swatches, floral samples and Christmas photos.

"#Christmas planning has begun in the East Wing at the @WhiteHouse," she wrote, referencing the wing of the White House where her office and staff are based. "I'm looking forward to sharing our final vision for this unique tradition in the coming months."

Old flame is on man's mind while marriage loses intimacy

DEAR ABBY: I am in a 14-year marriage, but there has always been another woman, "Emily," I have thought about almost daily the whole time. My wife and I have just turned 40. We have no kids, but we have a dog. I always thought I would want kids, and we tried half-heartedly, but there is no real intimacy to this day. I kiss her goodbye in the morning and, for years, that's been it.

Emily is all in on a relationship with me still to this day. We had a great relationship with great sex, and I miss all of that. I'm struggling about the right thing to do, partly because I know the pain this will cause.

My wife and I still have good times together with friends, but when we're home, it's like we're just best friends with no benefits. One of the last times we had sex, she ended it abruptly. The flame I felt for her is gone. I feel like I should go the other direction because she wants kids and still loves me deeply after all these years. Please advise.

WRESTLING WITH IT IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WRESTLING: Clearly you have never stopped talking to Emily. Quit "wrestling" and talk with your WIFE. She may have ended your last sexual encounter because it was physically painful or because she no longer feels emotionally connected to you.

The person who can help you determine what to do next is the woman to whom you are married. Whether this mar-

riage is salvageable is debatable, but this I do know: A healthy marriage takes TWO committed individuals, and in this case, one of them (you) has been missing in action.

DEAR ABBY: I am an older woman who finally got fed up with my husband's cellphone addiction. Since he would no longer speak to me but spent all his time scrolling on his device, I went out and bought a realistic-looking baby doll. When he pulled out his cell, I pulled out my doll. I talked to it, fiddled with its buttons and carried it everywhere. He finally yelled at me, "It's not real!" to which I replied, "It's real; it's just not alive. LIKE YOUR CELLPHONE."

This final scene was played out in the dining room of our country club, which was filled with members. The phone and "baby" stayed in the car after that. We laugh about it now, and she's resting comfortably in her carrier, just in case she's ever needed again.

THOUGHT I'D SHARE THIS

DEAR THOUGHT: I hesitate to endorse implied threats in marital disagreements, but your solution worked—brilliantly. So who am I to argue with success? Congratulations!

DEAR READERS: Tomorrow is Thanksgiving, and no Thanksgiving would be complete without sharing the traditional prayer penned by my dear late mother:

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



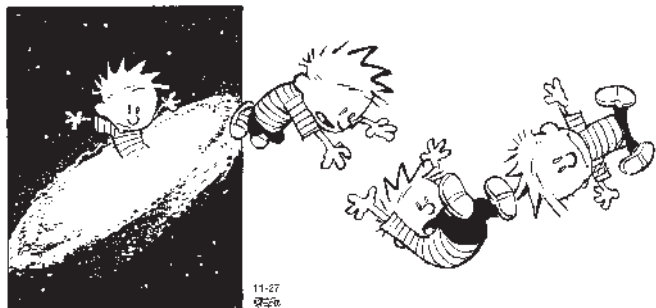
Oh, Heavenly Father,
We thank Thee for food and remember the hungry.
We thank Thee for health and remember the sick.
We thank Thee for friends and remember the friendless.
We thank Thee for freedom and remember the enslaved.
May these remembrances stir us to service.
That Thy gifts to us may be used for others.
Amen.
Have a safe and happy celebration, everyone!

Love, ABBY

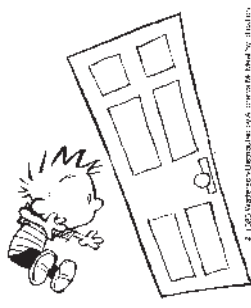
To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



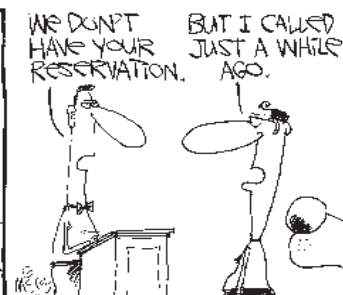
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Apple center
5 High school subj.
8 Bloke
12 Slightly
13 Scrap
14 Employ
15 Pronto
17 Baseball's Tommie
18 Vast multitude
19 Crocheted blanket
21 Bee follower
22 Belgrade resident
23 — -jongg
26 Hog haven
28 Begrimed
31 "No —!" ("Sure thing!")
33 Minivan alternative
35 Asta's mistress
36 Toaster's word
38 "I'm not im-pressed"

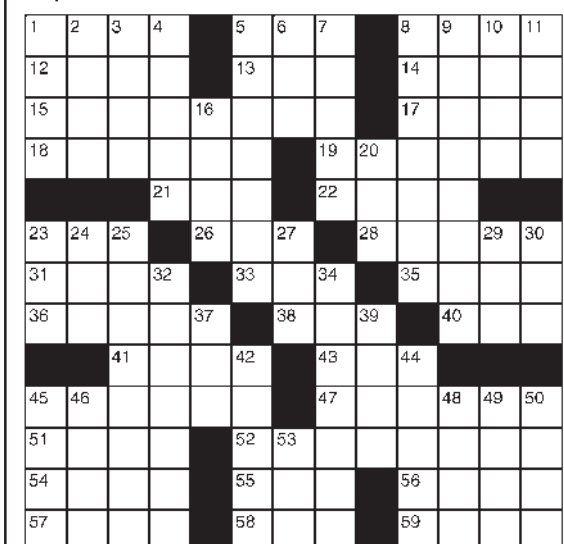
DOWN

11 Hammer part
16 Low digits
20 Nourished
23 AWOL
24 Noah's craft
25 Pokey
27 "Delicious!"
29 — -la-la
30 "Rah!"
32 Romantic songs
34 Rata-touille ingredients
37 Texter's chuckle
39 Frau's mate
42 Gal of "Wonder Woman"
44 Faithful
45 Remain
46 Rent
48 Bruins' sch.
49 Splendor
50 Trade
53 Toss in

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-27

ORAL ADD LAIT
ROPE MED USSR
LABOHEME XIII
YES GNO RUSSO
LAD TAR
MOTOR PAPYRUS
PROW FUN BO-T
GRABBAQ BOOTS
URB JAX
CREDO PER DIP
LONG LAWBOOKS
ALCE ABE AMES
VEST GAL FEAT



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alison Pill, 34; Jaleel White, 43; Fisher Stevens, 56; Kathryn Bigelow, 68.

Happy Birthday: Keep an open mind, but don't believe everything you hear. Mull over what's going on around you this year. Refuse to be pressured into something you aren't ready to do. Be honest with yourself as well as others, and you will avoid someone pushing you in a direction that doesn't suit your needs. It's time to reflect, revise and restart. Your numbers are 4, 15, 23, 27, 33, 38, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Being too accommodating or sharing too much information will put you in a vulnerable position. You are best not to let anyone know how you feel or what you think until you have a bird's-eye view of the possibilities. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Lots of opportunities and good times are heading your way. An unexpected change will turn out better than anticipated. Relax and enjoy the company of someone you love. Personal improvement will lead to a positive lifestyle change. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Listen carefully. Don't let someone confuse you with vague information that doesn't establish any concrete facts. A meaningful partnership will require nurturing, honesty and openness if you intend to avoid confusion and uncertainty. Avoid indulgence. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A change will be enlightening. Trying something new and meeting new people will trigger your imagination and help you process some of

the situations you are currently facing. Having a clear understanding of what's happening will encourage a positive change. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Participate in activities that require you to use your physical skills. An opportunity will arise that will give you the chance to show off what you have to offer. Don't expect everyone to be happy for you; jealousy may be a problem. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting out with friends, traveling, communicating and learning something new are favored. A personal change you make will bring out the best in you. Concentrate on self-improvement, peace, love and happiness. Don't let anyone stand in your way. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let the changes going on around you stop you from following the path that excites you the most. Expand your interests; surround yourself with people who motivate and encourage you. Don't mix business with pleasure or let someone mislead you. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Enjoy what you've worked so hard to achieve. Look for unique ways to enjoy life. Focus on a personal relationship with someone who has been there for you through all your ups and downs. Romance is favored. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a closer look at what's going on in your backyard. Spending too much time trying to change others when you should be looking inward and self-evaluating will set you back. Focus on love, honesty and personal happiness. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you want something, make it a priority. Do what you need to do, and reap the rewards. It's up to you to put your ideas to work and to finish what you start. Personal improvement will brighten your day. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't listen to anyone trying to persuade you to do something questionable. Let your inner voice guide you in a direction that you've been longing to pursue. You make a better leader than you do a follower. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Pay more attention to your business, and do your best not to get involved in other people's concerns. Use your intelligence when it comes to money, health or legal matters. A physical change you make will result in compliments. ★★

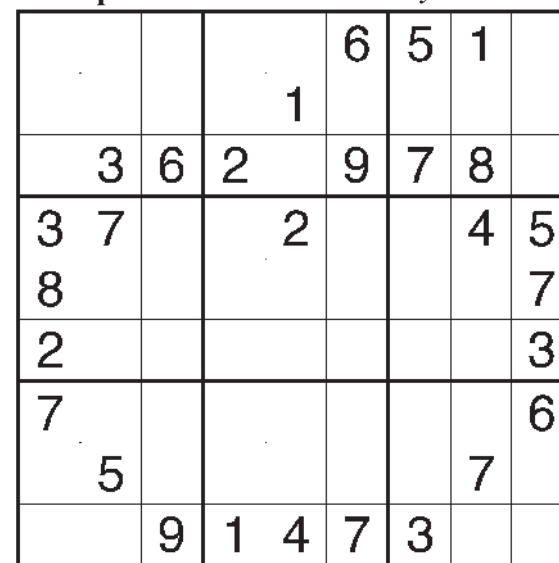
Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, imaginative and responsive. You are passionate and possessive.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2019 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



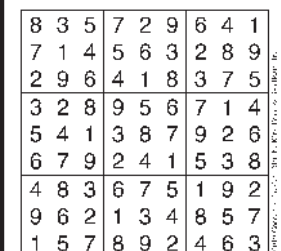
Difficulty Level ★★★

11/27

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

EMPHASIS

Solution: 10 letters

S P C H A R G E S T R E S S L
E P R E G R A L N E I C C O O
H M O O M E C R O F R I E R U
C T P T M R O F I O F O N T D
H I G H L I G H T C V V T W P
A O N N A I N H C U B E E C E
R S S T E S G E A S C L R V A
A S S T E R I H N N L R I D P
C C S E E N T Z T C D N T O
T I M P R E S S E N E R G Y S
E L E R L T R I T N I O P D I
R A L A I A C I T A M A R D T
T T B N C F Y I N Y L O V E I
S I M P L I F Y T G W O H S V
T N E M O M E A G E S T U R E

© 2019 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com

11/27

Actions, Actor, Affirm, Assert, Bold, Centering, Character, Charges, Cite, Dramatic, Dwell, Emblems, Emphasize, Energy, Enlarge, Evident, Focus, Font, Force, Form, Gesture, Hand, Highlight, Intensity, Italics, Loud, Love, Moment, Overdo, Play, Point, Positive, Prominence, Repeat, Show, Simplify, Sort, Spotlight, Steering, Strength, Stress, Voice, Words

Yesterday's Answer: Claim

Purchase the NEW Treasury 38 in time for the holidays! Order online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 75 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS



Looking for
a way to tell
everyone
about your
business?

PLACE
YOUR
ADVERT
HERE!

For opportunities
contact us at
235-6397

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands


PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at 9:00 am at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
October 31, 2019 – Regular Meeting
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. REPORTS**
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS²**
 - a. Review of By-Laws
 - b. Licensing Matters
 - 1. Tinian Entertainment Company
 - 2. After City Group, Inc.
 - 3. Request of Clear Management, Ltd.
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. TCGCC Resolution No. 19-001
 - b. TCGCC Resolution No. 19-002
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

¹Public Comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
²Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, November 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

- 1) Preliminary Matters**
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll Call
 - 3. Adoption of Agenda
 - 4. Adoption of Minutes
 - a. Regular Board Meeting – October 15, 2019
- 2) Public Comments**
- 3) Committee Reports**
 - 1. Finance Committee —
 - a. Fund Status Report – October 2019
- 4) New Business**
 - 1. Skylink Airlines Inaugural Flight
 - 2. Tinian Mayor's Office Holiday Festivities
 - 3. Christmas Lights Sole Source Contract – MVA-SOLE-20-2018
- 5) Old Business**
 - 1. Austerity Measures
 - 2. Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Banzai Cliff Peace Memorial Improvements – MVA-ITB-20-2017
 - 3. 1st Quarter FY2020 Korea Marketing Plans
- 6) Executive Session**
- 7) Miscellaneous/Announcements**
- 8) Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

WHATZIT Solution: New kid on the block

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	
• 3-Liner	\$15
• 5-Liner	\$24

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?TM

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

BABY BLOCK

WHATZIT? is 2019 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper for more news, value and information.

SUBSCRIBING MEANS MORE

Please call 235-NEWS

Jackson throws 5 TD passes, Ravens rout Rams



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lamar Jackson basically hadn't allowed the foot-

ball to touch the ground Monday night until he dropped an ordinary shotgun snap late in the first half at the Coliseum. He picked it up, split the pocket and sprinted away through the Rams' defense, going 35 thrilling yards before tripping right at the goal line.

Instead of celebrating, Jackson sprung up and remonstratively slapped both his hands on his helmet.

Baltimore's brilliant young quarterback wants to be perfect. He got awfully close in his "Monday Night Football" debut with the fearsome Ravens.

Jackson matched his career high with five touchdown passes and ran for 95 yards in another splendid all-around performance, and Baltimore routed Los Angeles 45-6 for its seventh consecutive victory.

Mark Ingram rushed for 111 yards and a TD and caught a scoring pass while the streaking Ravens (9-2) became the fourth team in the 21st century to score touchdowns on its first six drives in a game. With Jackson operating almost flawlessly at the controls, Baltimore embarrassed Aaron Donald and the previously solid Rams defense by racking up 480 yards with its evolving brand of high-octane football.

"We're clicking on all cylinders right now," Jackson said. "It's OK, but we're trying to win the Super Bowl. This is cool, but we're chasing that right now, and that's what we're focused on."

The Ravens' 22-year-old quarterback strengthened his Most Valuable Player case while going 15 of 20 for 169 yards and constantly making smart decisions with his arm and his feet. He hit Willie Snead with his fifth TD pass with 14:43 to play and took

AP
Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, right, is tackled by Los Angeles Rams defensive end Dante Fowler during the second half of an NFL game Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, in Los Angeles.



the rest of the night off, but even the LA crowd serenaded him with "M-V-P!" chants in the final minutes.

"That's just operating at the highest level you can operate as a quarterback," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said of Jackson's first half, in which he went 9 for 9 and led four TD drives.

Snead and Marquise Brown had two TD catches apiece for the Ravens, whose winning streak is their longest since they won seven straight to close the 2000 season on the way to their first Super Bowl title. At 9-2, the Ravens have matched their best start since 2012, which ended in their second Super Bowl championship. Baltimore has outscored its last three opponents 135-26.

Jared Goff passed for 212 yards with two interceptions

and Todd Gurley rushed for just 22 for the defending NFC champion Rams (6-5), who took the worst loss of their three seasons under coach Sean McVay.

"We didn't do nearly enough to be competitive," McVay said. "It was impressive. When you sit there and watch and see (Jackson) up close and personal — on third down with his operation to find completions and making plays with his legs — I can see why they are talking about him being MVP."

Los Angeles hadn't lost by more than 21 points in its first 43 games under McVay, whose once-prolific offense had another humiliating performance with just 111 yards in the first three quarters before finishing with 221. The Rams failed to score a touch-

down for the second time in three games, and Goff didn't throw a TD pass in November.

In the Coliseum's first Monday night game since the Rams' epic 54-51 win over Kansas City last November, the Rams gave up one more point than they had allowed in their previous four games combined. The Rams also were among the NFL's best offensive teams for the previous two seasons, but they've lost that status this year while Baltimore has ascended to dominance.

"We got our faces peeled off," said Rams safety Eric Weddle, who spent the past three seasons with Baltimore. "We didn't do much good out there. ... (Jackson) is amazing. The tempo and the speed. I thought the first series or two, we would take our bearings to get adjusted to his speed. He's

one of a kind."

The Ravens scored on their opening drive for the seventh time already this season when Jackson lofted an easy TD pass to Brown, who spent a year playing community college ball in nearby Santa Clarita. Brown got his second TD from 18 yards out on Baltimore's second drive, and Ingram capped a 75-yard march with a 1-yard TD run on the third.

Baltimore got the ball back with only 1:55 left before halftime, but that was plenty for Jackson. He hit Snead with a 7-yard TD pass with 12 seconds left, and Rams fans booed their team off the field down 28-6.

Baltimore opened the second half with another 75-yard drive capped by Ingram's TD catch. The Ravens held the ball for all but 59 seconds of

the third quarter, and Snead made his second TD catch early in the fourth.

The Ravens finally had to punt in the fourth quarter, ending a streak of 18 consecutive drives without a punt.

Meanwhile, Baltimore cornerback Marcus Peters made an interception in the fourth quarter to cap his first meeting with the Rams since they traded him to the Ravens last month. Peters shook hands with dozens of former teammates throughout the night, but he also engaged in some demonstrative trash talking with Robert Woods on the field, and he celebrated his pick with relish. Peters then exchanged postgame words on the field and up the tunnel with Rams cornerback Jalen Ramsey, who arrived two weeks after Peters' departure.

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The path to an NFC East title for the Philadelphia Eagles is simple and they don't have to rely on outside help if they take care of their own business.

Winning is the hard part.

Following consecutive losses to New England (10-1) and Seattle (9-2), the Eagles (5-6) are still only one game behind Dallas (6-5) in the division. Four of their last five games are against teams currently with a 2-9 record. The other is a home game against the Cowboys in Week 16.

If they win all five, they will secure the division. So despite a dismal offensive performance for the second straight game, the Eagles

Despite struggles, Eagles still have a chance in NFC East

have a chance now that the toughest part of their schedule is out of the way.

"We're still in this thing, the season isn't over," coach Doug Pederson said Monday. "Gosh, we have five games, a great opportunity in Miami this week. That gives you hope as you move forward."

Carson Wentz struggled against the Seahawks, turning the ball over four times in a 17-9 loss. But the offense was missing its top three wide receivers, leading rusher and two Pro Bowl offensive linemen.

Wentz completed 33 of 45 passes for 256 yards, one touchdown, two interceptions and two fumbles, including

one on a handoff exchange. But he got little help from his receivers.

"It's not always about the quarterback," Pederson said. "We can coach that up, obviously, and we will, but we also have to get the other guys in the right spots as well."

The passing game is struggling. Wentz has no deep threat with DeSean Jackson out for the season. Alshon Jeffery and Nelson Agholor didn't play against Seattle, though both have been plagued by costly drops. Greg Ward came off the practice squad and made six catches, one more than second-round pick J.J. Arce-

ga-Whiteside has the entire season. Jordan Matthews played two games and was released Monday.

The entire defense has stepped it up, allowing just 17 points to Tom Brady and the Patriots and 17 to Russell Wilson and the Seahawks. The return of cornerbacks Jalen Mills, Ronald Darby and Avonte Maddox has been a significant boost for the secondary. The pass defense has allowed fewer than 225 passing yards in five straight games and opponents have scored 17 or fewer points in four straight.

Wentz hasn't looked like the guy who finished third

in NFL MVP voting in his sophomore season. Lack of talent around him is the biggest reason but it also appears he's having issues with some of his mechanics and he could be pressing, trying to live up to the pressure of the \$128 million contract he signed before the season.

Right tackle Lane Johnson is in concussion protocol but expected to return to practice Wednesday. Right guard Brandon Brooks is dealing with anxiety issues. Running back Jordan Howard has missed two games with a stinger and remains day to day. Jeffery (ankle) and Agholor (knee) could be ready to

return this week.

Meanwhile, Hall of Famers Joe Greene, Deacon Jones and Dick Butkus are among the finalists on defense for the NFL's All-Time Team.

The league on Monday revealed 24 linebackers, 18 defensive ends and 16 defensive tackles for the squad. A 26-member voting panel is making the choices, with 12 LBs, seven DEs and seven DTs eventually making the team.

Houston's J.J. Watt, Carolina's Luke Kuechly, and Denver's Von Miller are the current players among the finalists.

Bruce Smith, the career sacks leader, Ray Lewis, No. 2 in solo tackles, and Julius Pepper, second in tackles for loss, are on the list.

Giannis' 50 points lift Bucks past Jazz



MILWAUKEE (AP)—Giannis Antetokounmpo had one of the most dominant games of his career and the Milwaukee Bucks needed every bit of it.

Antetokounmpo scored a season-high 50 points and grabbed 14 rebounds for his 17th consecutive double-double to help the Bucks rally in the second half for their eighth straight victory, 122-118 over the Utah Jazz on Monday night.

"We threw everything at him. We threw everybody at him. We threw double-teams and he made plays out of the post," said Jazz guard Mike Conley. "He got to the free throw line. When he started making the long-range shot that really makes it tough. I was proud of the way we defended. We tried rebounding and tried to box him out, and he was too tall, too long."

Milwaukee led 120-113 with 1:24 left, but Bojan Bogdanovic countered with a 3-pointer and Donovan Mitchell followed with a layup to make 120-118 with 43 seconds left. The Bucks missed on their next possession, but Brook Lopez blocked Mitchell's driving layup attempt with 4.4 seconds remaining.

Wesley Matthews added 19 points and Eric Bledsoe 13 for the Bucks, whose last loss was at Utah on Nov. 8.

Bogdanovic had 24 points and Mitchell 20 for the Jazz, who were 21 of 45 on 3-pointers.

Antetokounmpo's streak of double-doubles is the longest to begin a season since Bill Walton opened with 34 straight in 1976-77. Antetokounmpo, who had 32 points in the second half, played 38 1/2 minutes and did not commit a turnover.

"I'm impressed, I'm not going to lie to you," said Antetokounmpo, the reigning MVP. "Great game and all that. My second 50-point game of my career. Doing it with zero turnovers and all that, that's great. I see that they made 21 3s, and as a team we were still able to be in the game and still win the game. At the end of the day, all that matters is a win."

Milwaukee trailed 57-48 at the half, going just 3 of 17 from 3-point range, but pulled even with a 10-0 run midway through the third quarter. Antetokounmpo's 3-pointer from the top of the key tied it at 74 with 5:28 left in the period.

"The third quarter stood out, where we played well on both ends," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "(We) had enough stops. More importantly, against a good team, we were able to make some shots. I was really pleased with the third quarter."



Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) is fouled as he drives between Utah Jazz's Donovan Mitchell (45) and Royce O'Neale (23) during the first half of an NBA game Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, in Milwaukee.

13 rebounds, Jimmy Butler also scored 21 points and the Heat remained unbeaten at home by topping Charlotte.

Kendrick Nunn scored 19 points, Tyler Herro added 18 and Kelly Olynyk finished with 15 points and 16 rebounds for Miami.

Nets 108, Cavaliers 106

In Cleveland, Spencer Dinwiddie hit a fadeaway jumper with 1.9 seconds remaining to give Brooklyn its fourth straight victory.

Cleveland erased a 106-97 deficit with just over 2 minutes left and tied the game on Collin's Sexton's free throw with 21 seconds to play.

Following a shot clock violation, the Nets called timeout and set up the last play. Dinwiddie took the inbound pass from Joe Harris, dribbled to the right of the key and hit the tiebreaking shot.

Pacers 126, Grizzlies 114

In Indianapolis, T.J. Warren scored 26 points to lead the Indiana past Memphis.

Jeremy Lamb had 19 points and Aaron Holiday added 16 points off the bench for the Pacers, who have won three straight and seven of nine.

Jared Jackson Jr. scored 28 points, Ja Morant had 19 points and 10 rebounds, and Brandon Clarke scored 17 points on 8-of-9 shooting for the Grizzlies.

Timberwolves 125, Hawks 113

In Atlanta, Karl-Anthony Towns had 28 points and 13 rebounds, Andrew Wiggins added 25 points and Minnesota rode three big offensive quarters to rally past the Hawks.

Trae Young scored 37 points for the Hawks, who outscored the Timberwolves 34-16 in the second quarter. But Minnesota had 38 points in the first quarter, 39 in the third and 32 in the fourth against one of the NBA's weakest defensive teams and snapped a two-game skid.

Pistons 103, Magic 88

In Detroit, Luke Kennard scored 20 points and Blake Griffin added 17 to lead the Pistons past Orlando.

The Magic were held to 15 points in the third quarter and 33 in the second half. They are now 0-7 on the road this season.

The Jazz used a 10-0 run early in the second quarter to go in front 35-25. Milwaukee missed seven consecutive shots during that span, including 0 for 5 from beyond the arc.

Utah was aided by a six-point swing midway through the second quarter. Bledsoe's short pull-up jumper from the right baseline was negated when he was called for an offensive foul for jumping back into Bogdanovic. The Bucks challenged, but the call was upheld, and Budenholzer then was called for a technical. Bogdanovic made the free throw and then drilled a 3-pointer on the ensuing possession to put Utah up 39-29.

"We pride ourselves on being a team that's going to play late (in the postseason)," Mitchell said. "But we've got

to grind and get to that point. We could have got them tonight, but Giannis got 50. He's the MVP for a reason."

Raptors 101, 76ers 96

In Toronto, Pascal Siakam scored 25 points, Fred VanVleet added 24 and the Raptors held Joel Embiid scoreless for the first time in his career.

Rondae Hollis-Jefferson had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Raptors, who posted their 14th consecutive home victory over the 76ers.

OG Anunoby scored 12 points, Terence Davis had 11 and Norman Powell 10 as Toronto improved to 7-0 at home.

Josh Richardson scored 25 points and Tobias Harris had 18 for the 76ers, who have not won a regular-season game in Toronto in more than seven years.

Lakers 114, Spurs 104

In San Antonio, LeBron James had 33 points and 13 assists, and Los Angeles won over the Spurs.

Anthony Davis added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers (15-2) in his final game before returning to New Orleans on Wednesday.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 30 points and DeMar DeRozan added 22 for the Spurs. San Antonio fell to 6-12 after its 11th loss in 13 games.

Trail Blazers 117, Bulls 94

In Chicago, Carmelo Anthony scored 25 points in just his fourth game of the season, CJ McCollum added 21 and Portland beat the Bulls.

Damian Lillard had 13 points and 12 assists as Portland snapped a four-game losing streak.

Anthony was 10 for 20 from the field, including 4 of 7 on 3-pointers. He now has 25,615 career points to move ahead of Alex English (26,613) into 18th place on the NBA's career scoring list.

Celtics 103, Kings 102

In Boston, Jaylen Brown scored 24 points, Jayson Tatum had 20 and the Celtics held off Sacramento Kings despite a career-high 41 points from Buddy Hield.

Marcus Smart had 17 points with seven assists, and Enes Kanter added 13 points and nine rebounds for the Celtics, who had lost the final two games of a 2/3 West Coast trip.

Heat 117, Hornets 100

In Miami, Bam Adebayo scored 21 points and grabbed

Celtics: No serious injury on Kemba

BOSTON (AP) — Celtics guard Kemba Walker wasn't seriously injured during a scary collision with a teammate last week that led to him being taken from the court on a stretcher, Boston's team doctor said Monday, but Walker will be kept out of the lineup until he goes through a full practice.

Walker was on the bench for Monday night's game against the Sacramento Kings, the team's first game since the injury.

Walker collided with teammate Semi Ojeleye's abdominal area head-first and went

down to the court in a heap against the Denver Nuggets on Friday night.

A brace was placed around his neck and he was strapped to a backboard before being placed onto a gurney and wheeled off the court.

"It looked like it was going to be a very serious injury, but thankfully it turned out not to be a very serious injury," team physician Dr. Tony Schena told reporters Monday.

Schena said Walker had "numbness and tingling in his hands" immediately after the collision, which is why trainers were so cautious with him.

Walker had X-rays at the arena Friday night that came back negative, and more imaging tests were done at a trauma center that also showed no major injuries, Schena said.

Walker flew home with Saturday wearing a soft neck brace. Schena said he had the spinal X-ray reviewed after Walker arrived and it showed "no symptoms" and Walker was "feeling very well."

The medical staff decided that even though he had "no concussion symptoms, he went through protocol anyway," Schena said.

The physician said Walker went through a "full cognitive review" Saturday and Sunday. He said Walker "passed the cognitive test and also had a light workout and passed it again after that." The team sent him to specialist at a hospital that's not affiliated directly with the team for another spinal exam, and reviews of the X-rays and concussion test.

Walker is expected to go through a full workout on Tuesday.

"He feels well, no symptoms," Schena said. "(We'll) get him to a full practice and progress from there."

Federer not thinking about calling it a day



Roger Federer joked he may never retire from tennis as he continues to focus on extending his career for as long as possible.

Federer turned 38 in August and has just rounded off a hugely successful tour with Alexander Zverev.

The 20-time grand slam winner won four titles this season, while he missed out on glory at Wimbledon after losing in an epic final against Novak Djokovic.

Federer has recently invested in Swiss-based shoe company On Running, but he insists his business venture is not a sign he is set to stop playing the sport he loves.

"I've been asked all week about how retirement is going to be and when it is going to come, I think they all needed to know," Federer said during his appearance on the Today Show.

"But no, this is not about retirement. On [the company] doesn't want me to retire, they want me to play as long as possible and that is my goal. I will never retire!"

Federer did acknowledge, however, that he is looking forward to the freedom his eventual retirement will bring, considering the impact tennis has on the rest of his life.

"I like my sweets, desserts, time off," he said. "I start my planning for the year around



where I'm going to go on vacation with my family, and that's where I'll be in a couple of days, on the beach, so I can't

wait. Actually, when I had my knee issues in 2016 and I was rehabbing for almost eight months, I felt like that could

be my life after [retirement].

"Of course I was never as busy but it was just nice to be able to have schedules with

friends—lunch on Wednesdays, dinners on Fridays, let's have a good time on the weekends together with another

AP
Roger Federer of Switzerland plays a ball in an exhibition tennis match against Germany's Alexander Zverev at Plaza de Toros bullring in Mexico City, Saturday, Nov. 23, 2019.

family. I'm really looking forward to that."

Federer's tour included matches against Zverev in Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Ecuador. The pair were due to play in Colombia too, but a curfew in Bogota meant the exhibition was called off.

"It was absolutely crazy," Federer said of the tour. "We played in four cities, almost in front of 100,000 people and Mexico City, had 42,000 people, double of Arthur Ashe Stadium here in New York. Breaking those records, doing it with Zverev, it's not something I ever thought I would do."

The previous record was held by Serena Williams and Kim Clijsters from an exhibition in the latter's home country of Belgium, where 35,681 were on hand to watch the pair in 2010, according to Reuters.

While that record stood for nine years, this new one might not make it nearly so long. There are already plans for Federer and fellow all-time great Rafael Nadal to take a run at the record in South Africa next February. The location: Cape Town Stadium, with a capacity of 55,000.



NEW YORK —

Now that Jacoby Ellsbury has been expelled from Yankees universe, one odious long-term contract stands alone.

And the Giancarlo Stanton deal will be a drag for years and years to come.

The Yankees are still on the hook for over \$26 million owed to Ellsbury, including a \$5 million buyout for 2021.

There are certain similarities to the Ellsbury and Stanton agreements, though the former was a free-agent deal and the latter was a leveraged trade with the Miami Marlins.

In both cases, the Yankees already had a similar-styled, established and under control player at the position when they made the deal.

Brett Gardner had signed a \$52 million extension through 2018 as Ellsbury came on board in 2014 and assumed center field, pushing Gardner to left field.

Right fielder Aaron Judge was coming off his remarkable AL Rookie of the Year season and runner-up AL MVP finish in 2017 when Stanton arrived via trade from the Marlins just ahead of the Winter Meetings.

Both players came with injury

Stanton's contract will haunt Yankees for years

histories but managed to stay on the field in their initial Yankees season (149 games for Ellsbury, 159 games for Stanton) before setbacks in Year Two.

Stanton, who turned 30 this month, will seek to rebound from the biceps, shoulder, knee and (in postseason) quad issues that limited him to 23 total games in 2019.

According to Cot's Baseball Contracts website, Stanton is owed \$214 million by the Yankees through the 2028 season. That's assuming the club declines an option and triggers a \$10 million buyout of his final contract year.

An additional \$30 million guaranteed is covered by the Marlins, as long as Stanton does not opt out—as is his contractual right—after the 2020 season.

Yeah, that's not likely to happen.

As with Ellsbury's deal, Stanton has full no-trade protection, making him virtually unmovable.

Why the Yankees were so eager to rush into another decade-long commitment to a slugger they did not develop—especially having just freed themselves of the Alex Rodri-

gue obligation—remains an odd outlier in the club's new business model.

They inherited the structure of a backloaded 13-year, \$325 million extension. Stanton will be earning \$32 million annually in his age 33, 34 and 35 seasons.

In acquiring Stanton, the Yankees effectively made their superstar choice and took a pass when Manny Machado and Bryce Harper became free agents after the 2018 season.

Patrick Corbin was their initial top free-agent target a year ago, but the club dropped out when the Washington Nationals went an extra year and about \$40 million higher to secure the lefty at six years, \$140 million.

Having reset themselves under the luxury tax threshold in 2018, the Yankees still moved back over in 2019, and now players such as Judge and Gary Sanchez are due for significant raises.

Once again this winter, the Yanks have identified starting pitching as an area to upgrade.

But it remains to be seen if the Yankees' current commitments—led by the anchor of Stanton's long-term deal — pre-

vents them from going to the top of the free-agent market for Gerrit Cole or Stephen Strasburg.

This is also a club uncertain about who the opening day player will be at two vital positions—shortstop and center field.

And that Ellsbury money is still on the books for 2020.

Meanwhile, the Tampa Bay Rays have agreed to a \$4.5 million, one-year contract with catcher Mike Zunino, avoiding arbitration.

The deal announced Monday, one day after free agent Travis d'Arnaud signed with the Atlanta Braves, includes a \$4.5 million club option for 2021. The option price would increase by \$250,000 each for 300, 400 and 500 plate appearances in 2020, making a second year potentially worth \$5.25 million.

If the option is declined, Zunino would become eligible for free agency.

Zunino was acquired from Seattle in a five-player trade in November 2018 and started 78 of 90 games he played last season, when d'Arnaud finished the year as the team's primary catcher. Zunino hit .165 with 10 doubles, nine

home runs and 32 RBIs, while throwing out 34 percent of attempted base stealers.

The 28-year-old has a .202 average with 104 homers and 273 RBIs over seven big league seasons.

In other development, free agent left-hander Rich Hill had surgery on his pitching elbow and is likely to miss the first half of next season, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Monday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because Hill's surgery was not announced.

Rather than have Tommy John surgery to repair a torn ulnar collateral ligament, Hill had what is called primary revision surgery, the person said. This type of surgery usually requires a shorter recovery time, and Hill is expected to start throwing by the end of April, the person said.

Hill, who turns 40 in March, had Tommy John surgery while with Boston in 2011.

Rich Hill was 4-1 with a 2.45 ERA in 13 starts this year.

He was 4-1 with a 2.45 ERA in 13 starts this year for the Los Angeles Dodgers, completing a \$48 million, three-year

contract. He was sidelined between June 19 and Sept. 12 with a strained flexor tendon in his pitching forearm and then in his first start back felt right knee pain that delayed his next outing until Sept. 24. Hill started Game 4 of the Division Series against Washington and did not get a decision, allowing one run over 2 2/3 innings in a 6-1 defeat.

Hill was 30-16 with a 3.16 ERA with the Dodgers, who acquired him from Oakland on Aug. 1, 2016. He is 65-42 in 15 big league seasons.

His surgery was first reported by WEEI. The operation was done by Dr. Jeffrey Dugas of Andrew Sports Medicine.

The Chicago White Sox have placed Gold Glove second baseman Yolmer Sánchez on outright waivers.

The person spoke Monday on the condition of anonymity because the move, first reported by The Athletic, has not been announced.

Sánchez had the second-highest fielding percentage among AL second baseman last season and won his first Gold Glove. He was among Chicago's most entertaining players, making mud angels during a rain delay, but he hit .252 with two homers.

Lauron takes MVP honors in JP World caging

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Joeten 1's Alex Lauron won a handful of awards in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium, including the coveted most valuable player trophy.

The Joeten 1 forward was named the league MVP for

steering his team to first place in Pool A in the regular season and leading the group's title sweep against Top Development, Inc.

In Games 1 and 2 of the best-of-three finals, Lauron emerged as the top scorer for Joeten 1. He made 12 markers in their 85-66 victory in the opener and played better in the title-clinching Game 2 after firing 17 points, 12 of them came in the second half to power Joeten 1 to a 75-66 triumph.

Besides the MVP trophy, Lauron was handed two more awards, as he led the league in rebounds and was named to



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

From left, Joeten 1's Chris Lilles, Sydney Quan, and Alex Lauron, and Top Development, Inc.'s Darwin Barbo and Sean Rabasto pose for a photo after being named to the Mythical Five selection during the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League's awards presentation last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium

the Mythical Five selection.

Joining Lauron on the elite group are his teammates Chris Lilles and Sydney Quan and TDI's Darwin Barbo and Sean Rabasto.

Joeten 1 and TDI reached the finals after sweeping Triple J Motors and RNV Best Deal, respectively, in their best-of-three semis series.

BALAS

From Page 28

Leadoff batter Amy Cabrera put Balas on the board right in the first inning and the team got six more runs, courtesy of Kiki Norita, Angel Deleon Guerrero, Caitlyn King, Ashlie Aguon, Chayane Sablan, and Maria Igitol, to open a 7-0 lead after one complete.

The Niners, after a run-less first inning, tried to catch up at the bottom of the second and had some success, as Anne Magofna, Roselyn Castro, Selenia Taitano, and Crystal Borja reached to bring down Balas' lead to 4, 8-4.

Balas was held to one run

(from Norita) in the second inning, but was back on target in the third inning, drilling seven more. Cabrera, Tamisha Sablan, Norita, Tydingco, Deleon Guerrero, King, and Aguon scored for Balas for their double-digit lead, 15-4.

The Niners failed to fight back in the last three innings, as they did not make it to the board anew in the third and fifth and were limited to three runs in the fourth, while Balas combined for seven in the last two frames.

With the loss, the Niners are 0-2, as they also absorbed a beating from the Patriot Angels (23-4) last Nov. 16.

BEARS

From Page 28

enbaugh stranded at second and first base, respectively. The Bears pitching ace got two more Ks in the second inning and left McGwire Iyekar stuck at first base. In the third inning, he caught a fly from Nate Smith for the second out before giving up a single on Camacho, who was then left at first base, as Bears shortstop A.J. Lizama caught a fly from Aughenbaugh.

The Bears' defense continued to hang tough in the fourth inning with Secharmidal having the biggest stop in that juncture. He had two more strikeouts with his second ending the inning and leaving Jon Villagomez at third base and Iyekar at second. For his last stint on the mound, Secharmidal started the fifth inning by striking out Pat Tenorio and the Mariners were forced to a quick 1-2-3, as the former picked up a shot from Camacho and threw to first baseman Angel Palacios for the third out. The Bears got the second out off a 6-3 putout play and the defending champions took a 6-0 lead after five complete innings.

Leadoff batter Kiku Lizama gave the Bears their first run when he reached off a sacrifice out from A.J. Lizama in the first inning. The Bears did not score in the next two innings,

but made up for it in the fourth and fifth. A.J. Lizama and Ricardo Dela Cruz delivered two runs off the Mariners' errors at the bottom of the fourth. Palacios reached in the fifth inning off Dela Cruz's triple, while Henry and A.J. Lizama did the same, courtesy of a hit by pitch and the Mariners' error, respectively.

The Bears went on to keep the 6-0 advantage in the sixth inning, as the Mariners were called for three quick outs anew at the top with Aughenbaugh and Gary Cruz out on a double play and Villagomez flying out.

With their season nearing its end, the Mariners made one final push to extend the series at the top of the seventh inning. Jonah Flores led off for the Mariners and flied put at second base, while Iyekar doubled and reached off the Bears' throwing error to out their team on the board. Tony Tenorio was the Mariners' third batter and went down on a 5-3 putout play, leaving the Bears one out away from clinching the title.

However, the Bears' celebration was delayed a bit, as Pat Tenorio singled, Smith walked, and Camacho moved to first off a fielder's choice. With the bases loaded, the Mariners had another fielder's choice, but Smith, who advanced to second, was called for an out at third, ending the season in favor of the Bears.

Garapan, Koblerville undefeated in v-ball tourney

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Garapan Elementary School and Koblerville Elementary School earned unbeaten records in the first round of pool play in the 2019-2020 Public School System Interscholastic Co-ed Elementary Volleyball Tournament.

Garapan posted a 5-0 record in Pool A matches held

at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School grounds, while Koblerville registered a 3-0 mark in the Pool B games at Oleai Elementary School.

Grace Christian Academy 1 is also in Pool A and finished the first round in second place with its 4-1 record. GCA 2, GTC, and Kagman Elementary School had identical 2-3 slates, while San Vicente Elementary forfeited all five matches in the opener last weekend.

The Mallards defeated GCA 2 in their first game, 25-13, and downed GTC in the second, 25-3. Garapan took another easy win in its third game after dominating GCA 1, 25-10, and then outclassed Koblerville in its last match, 25-17.

In other results in Pool A, GCA 1 prevailed over GTC, 25-7; Koblerville, 25-13; and GCA 2, 25-7. GCA 2 triumphed against Koblerville, 25-4, while the latter won over GTC, 25-17. The host school

routed GCA 2, 25-9.

Meanwhile, in Pool B, Koblerville leads William S. Reyes Elementary School (2-1), Oleai (1-2), and Saipan International School (0-3).

Meanwhile, the second round of pool play matches will take place on Dec. 7 with GTC and Oleai still hosting the games. Results of the first two rounds will be used to determine the seeding for the championship round set for Dec. 14 at the Oleai Sports Complex.

ANDY

From Page 28

Serin moved into the finale after eliminating Savita Sikkel, 6-0, 6-1.

Besides the women's 4.0 singles crown, Helen also took the women's doubles 5.0 championship last weekend, as she and Malika Miyawaki prevailed over the Chung sisters, 6-1, 6-0.

Andy, on the other hand, bagged the men's 4.0 singles to notch two first place honors in Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association's first tournament of the season.

The Saipan International School student, who lorded it over in the boys U16 singles event in Week 1, bagged his second singles crown in the competition after sweeping David Kwon in the finals last Sunday, 6-2, 6-4. Andy also swept Felixberto Rulona in the semis, 6-2, 6-1, while Kwon needed only two sets, too to oust Edwin Simbulan, 6-1, 6-3, in the other Final Four match.

Meanwhile, Il Kyu Hwang, Sunny Kim, and Kazu Shintani were the other singles winners in Week 2.

The No. 1 seed Shintani lived up to high expectations after topping Rulona in the



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, siblings Irin and Serin Chung, Helen Kim, and Malika Miyawaki pose with their plaques during the awards ceremony for the 10th TanHoldings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

men's 3.0 singles finals, 6-3, 4-1 (retired). Earlier in the semis, Shintani slipped past Joseph Jang, 7-5, 3-6, 11-9, while the latter advanced to the Final Four following a 6-1, 6-0 triumph over Obi On-

yeozlili. Rulona, on the other hand, marched into the finals after ousting Kam Wah Kwan, 6-4, 6-3.

In the men's 2.0 singles, Hwang won the round-robin contest after beating Manny

Sitchon, 6-1, 6-1, and Ambet Omampo, 6-0, 6-0. In the women's 2.0 singles, which also had a round-robin format, Sunny earned the division title after defeating Ella Kim, 6-3, 7-5, and Julia Yoo, 6-1, 6-1.



Jackson throws
5 TD passes,
Ravens rout Rams

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Giannis' 50
points lift
Bucks past Jazz

PAGE 25



28 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Bears finish off Mariners



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Chalan Kanoa Bears wrapped up the best-of-five championship series in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League after downing the Mariners, 6-1, in Game 3 last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The finals sweep gave the Bears back-to-back titles and three in the last four seasons. The Bears earned a 3-0 record in their championship showdown against the Aces in 2016 and were awarded the crown in 2018 during the shortened SBL season (won Game 1 vs Go See Mark just a couple of days before Super Typhoon Yutu hit the island) before dominating the Mariners this season.

Versus the Mariners, the three-time champions had a free victory in Game 1 (forfeit), eased their way to a 14-3 triumph in Game 2, and shut



down their foes in the first five innings to clinch another title.

Virgil Secharmidal pitched for the Bears in the first five innings and nearly threw a no-hitter, as he yielded only one hit—a single from Nate Camacho at

the top of the third inning. The starting pitcher also recorded seven strikeouts.

Secharmidal fanned out two batters in the first inning with his second strikeout leaving Camacho and Eli Augh-

See BEARS on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Chalan Kanoa Bears' Fred Songao gets ready to swing during the bottom of the fourth inning of Game 3 of their title series against the Mariners in the 2019 Saipan Baseball League last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Balas eases past Niners



Balas routed the Niners, 22-7, to notch its first win in the Natibu Sports Association 2nd Annual All Girls Fast-pitch League last Saturday at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

Balas, which dropped its opener (against Patriot Angels, 15-14) battled back from the season debut loss after scoring in all five innings of their game against the Niners

See BALAS on Page 27



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A Balas runner right, steps back to first base during their earlier game against the Patriot Angels in the Natibu Sports Association 2nd Annual All Girls Fast-pitch League at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Andy Kim makes a baseline return to David Kwon during their boys U16 singles game in the 10th TanHoldings Tennis Classic last week at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

Andy, Helen triumph anew

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Andy Kim and Helen Kim picked up where they left off after ruling their respective divisions in the second and final week of the 10th TanHoldings Tennis Classic.

Helen, who topped the girls U14 singles and doubles events of the tournament in the opening week, added the

women's 4.0 singles title to her growing collection. The No. 1 seed defeated

Irin Chung in the semis, 6-4, 6-2, and downed the latter's sister, Serin in the finals last

Sunday, 7-5, 6-4, to clinch the division crown. Irin reached the semis following a 6-4, 6-1 victory over Sarka Glajchova, while

See ANDY on Page 27

